Tsuchiya Garon
Minegishi Nobuaki

OLD BOY

6

KABUTO

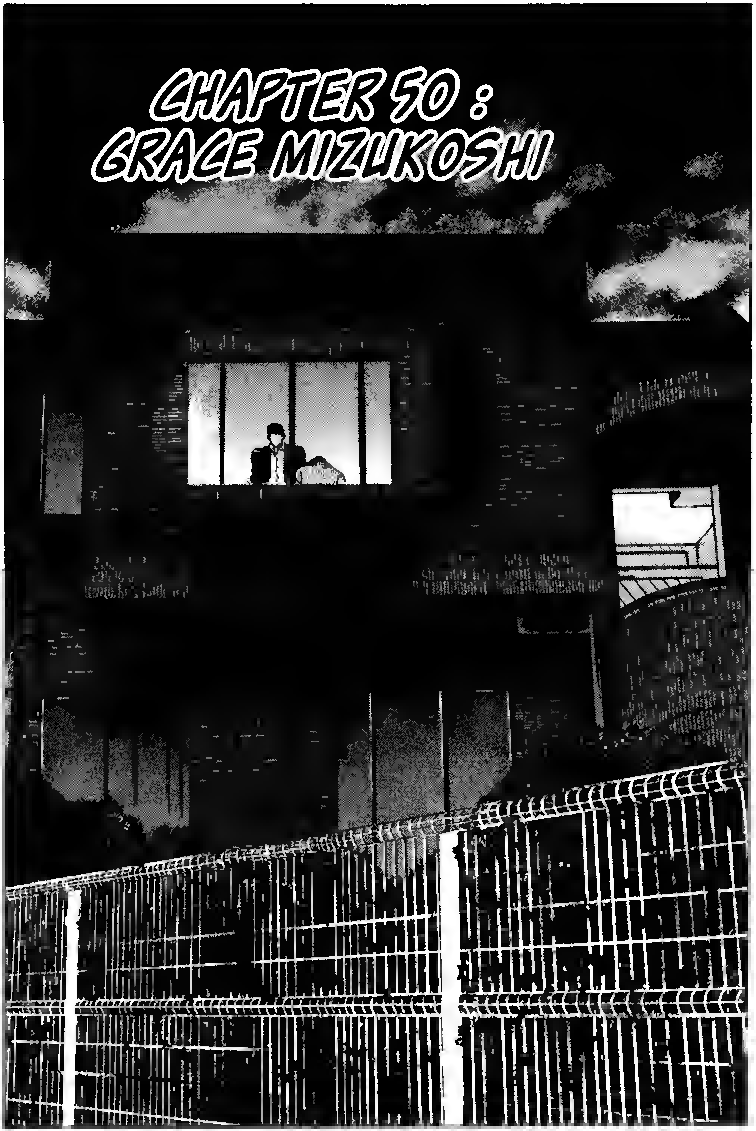
SCÉNARIO : TSUCHIYA GARON
DESSIN : MINEGISHI NOBUAKI

OLD BOY

MEMORIES OF A MAN IN SEARCH OF TRUTH

6

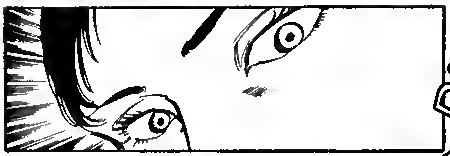
KABUTO


CHAPTER 50 :
GRACE MIZUKOSHI

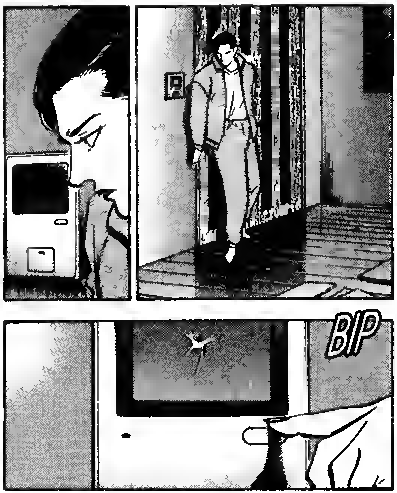
WI UUUU
THIS ROOM IS UNDER SUPERVISION! HE WAS WATCHING YOU FROM A BUILDING SOMEWHERE IN THIS DIRECTION.

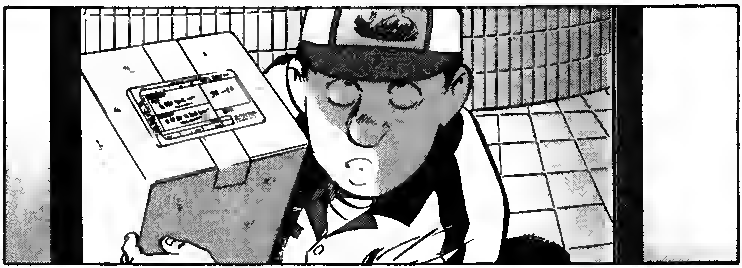
YOU MAY BE DECEIVED, GOTO?
THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE
I HAVE THE FEELING I'VE LOST ALL THE NECESSARY WILL TO KEEP ON WRITING...
FFF ...

MISS, I WON'T BLAME YOU FOR ANYTHING!
GRACE MIZUKOSHI...
WHAT WAS KAKINUMA'S NAME WHEN HE WAS DISGUISED AS A WOMAN?
SIMPLY BECAUSE THE LAST SIX MONTHS HAVE BEEN KNOWINGLY PLANNED...
EVEN THOUGH I TRUSTED MYSELF, THE PUBLIC DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME, AND IT CREATED A KIND OF ANNOYANCE IN ME...
IT'S LIKE KAKINUMA TOUCHED ME, THANKS TO THAT FEELING!
NO...
...



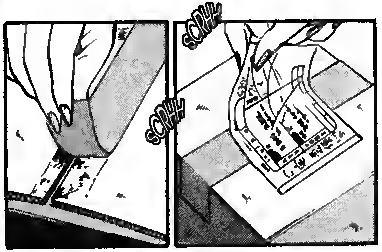
DING DONG

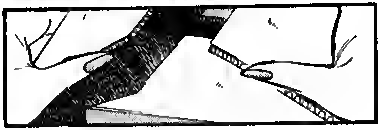
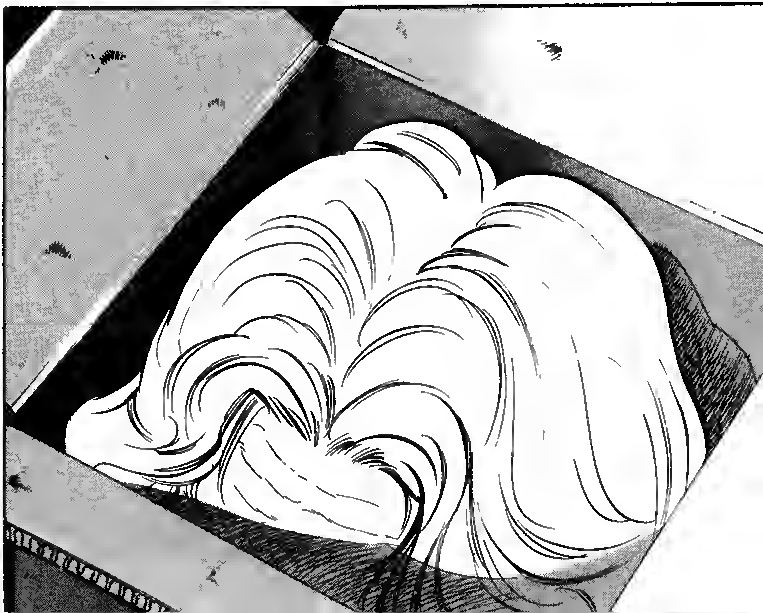

BIP



IT'S A DELIVERY!
YES?
...!?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
I DON'T KNOW THE NAME OF THE SENDER ...

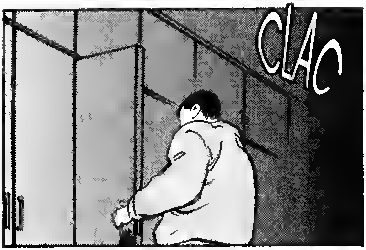

SCRUNCH
SCRUNCH

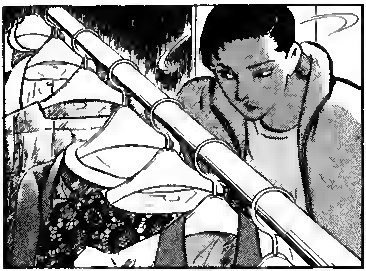



HA
HA
HA
HA
I'VE BEEN FOOLED!
KAKINUMA IS COMPLETELY LEADING THE GAME!

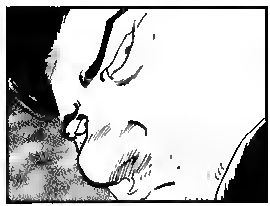
TO SUM IT UP, HERE'S GRACE MIZUKOSHI!

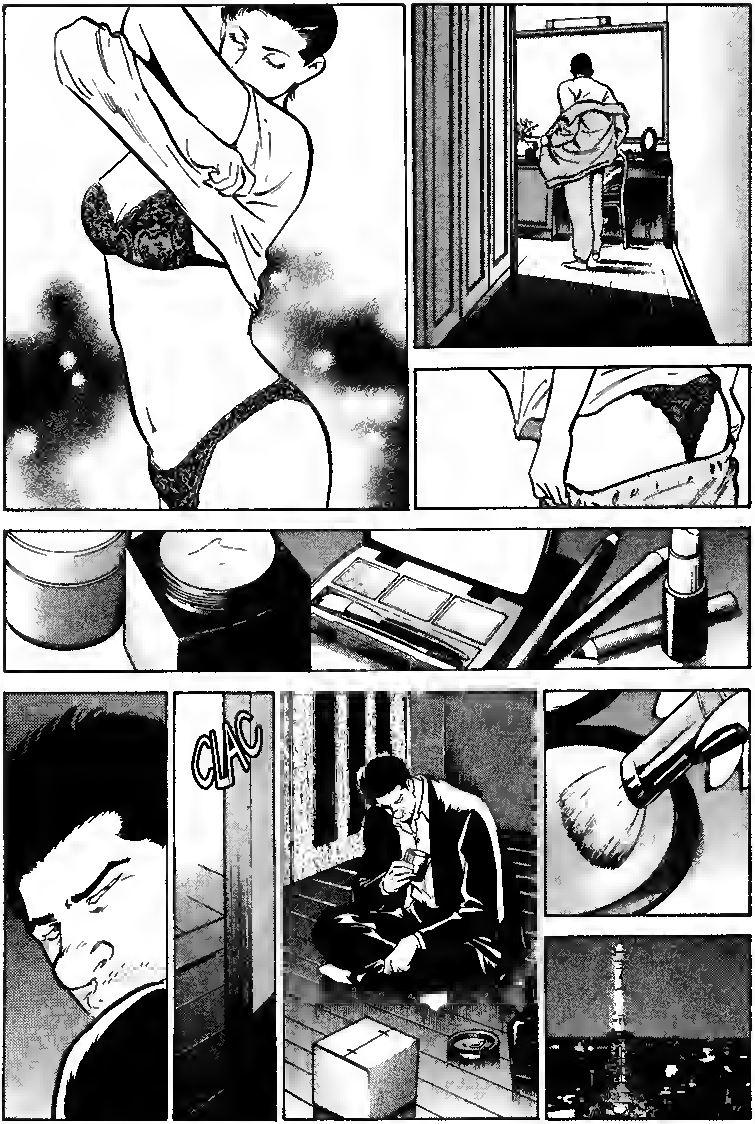
HAAH IT PISSES ME OFF
HE PROBABLY ORDERED THIS MASK FROM ONE OF THE FAMOUS SPECIAL EFFECTS STUDIOS IN HOLLYWOOD


CLAC



...!?




CLAC

SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK ABOUT IT?

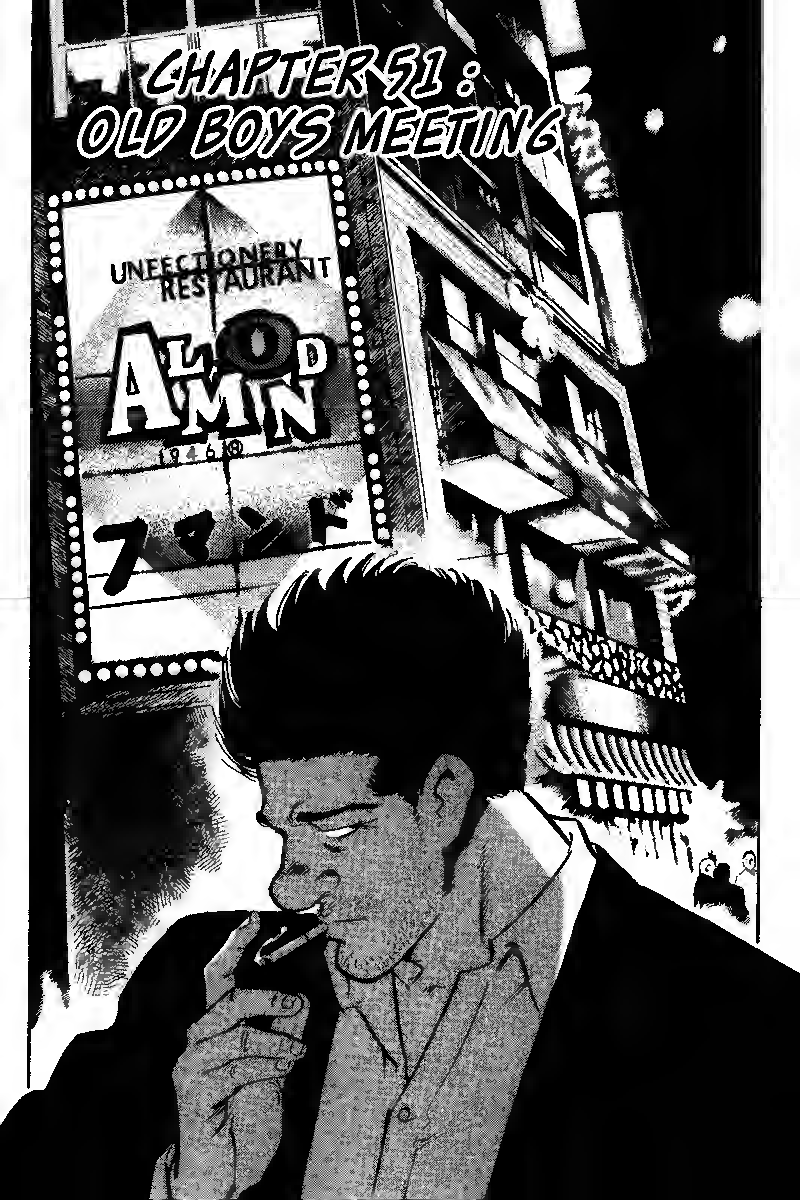
LET'S PROVOKE DOJIMA!
SAY, AIN'T YOU HUNGRY?
...!?
I PUT SOME STUFFING UNDER MY DRESS FOR THE BELLY AND THE BREASTS
I WOULD'VE BEEN FOOLED, TOO!
カラオケ
ALMOND

カラオケ
ラオケ

Café

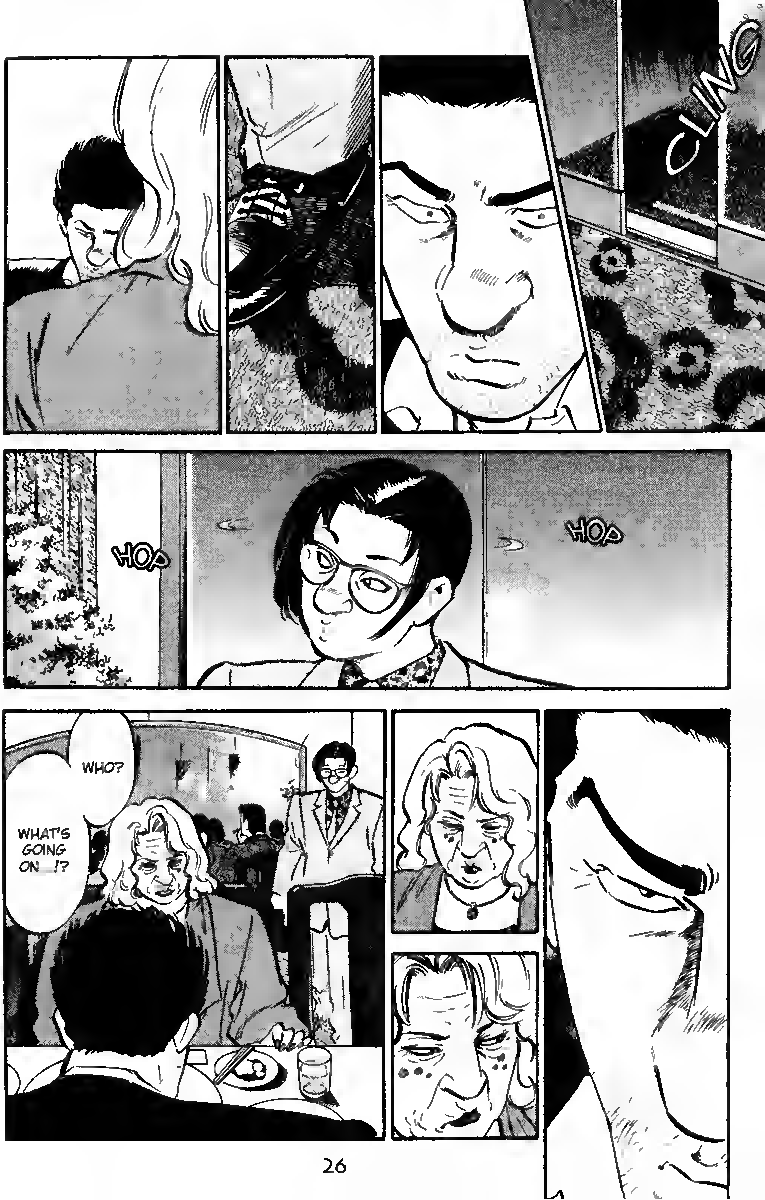
WOULD YOU MIND STOPPING THIS?!
MAYBE THEY THINK YOU'RE A GIGOLO WHO SEDUCES OLD RICH WOMEN
I WONDER WHAT THOSE PEOPLE THINK OF US...

SAY ...
DO YOU THINK THEY'RE FOLLOWING US RIGHT NOW?
DEFINITELY


CHAPTER 51 :
OLD BOYS MEETING
UNEFECTIONERY
RESTAURANT
ALOD
AMN
1946

95%...
WHAT ARE THE CHANCES?

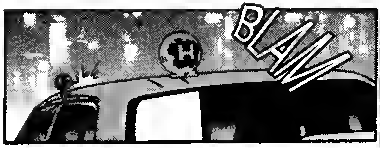
MIAM
MIAM
WAH! I HAVE TO GAIN STRENGTH!
HIS AGENTS, YES BUT SOMETIMES, DOJIMA USES OTHER PEOPLE!
YOU KNOW THE FACE OF THE GUY WHO'S WATCHING US, RIGHT!?

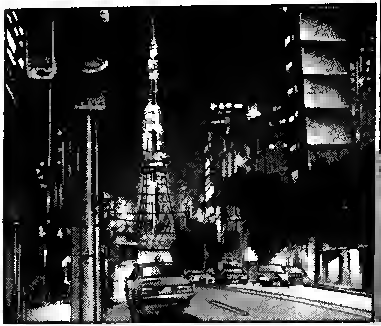

CLING
HOP
HOP
WHO?
WHAT'S GOING ON...!?

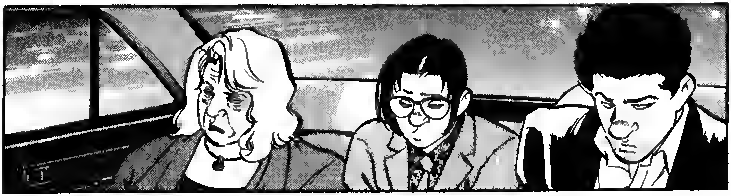
MISTER GOTO, MAY I?
I WON'T STAY...
SORRY!
HMM
SO, INTRODUCE YOURSELF!

DON'T ASK FOR MY NAME! I HAVE TO STAY ANONYMOUS!
I'M A KIND OF A REFEREE ENGAGED TO FAIRLY DECIDE WHO WILL BE THE WINNER BETWEEN MISTER GOTO AND MISTER DOJIMA!
WE DON'T FIND JOBS LIKE THIS EVERYDAY!
AROUND A ONE-YEAR SALARY...
WHAT ABOUT YOUR FEE?
PFF...

DAMN OTAKU, WHO SHOULD RE-CONSIDER WHAT HIS PRIORITIES ARE!
COME ON, HURRY UP AND DO YOUR JOB...
HM... WELL...
IT'S JUST...
BRING US TO DOJIMA!
YES...
VRP


BLAM





CRIII

ดังเง้!
ดัง

WOULD YOU MIND GOING TO THE RESTROOMS, PLEASE...?

IT'S LIKE AN OLD BOYS MEETING, DON'T YOU THINK SO ...?
A REALLY PRIVATE MEETING ...
A BEAUTIFUL TEACHER AND TWO OF HER OLD PUPILS WHO MEET EACH OTHER AFTER SO MANY YEARS!
IT'S LIKE I'M DREAMING ...
TOP

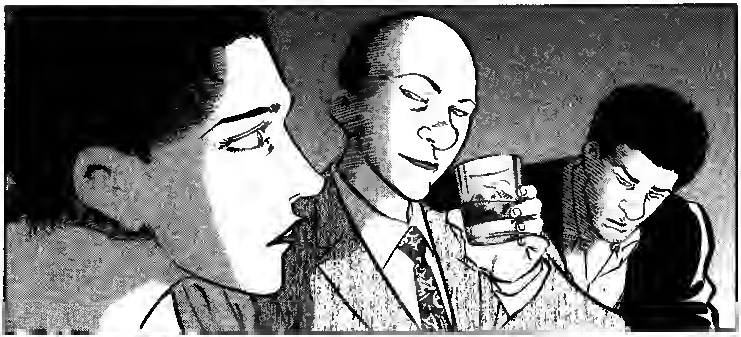
UNFORTUNATELY, THIS QUESTION WILL NOT BE ANSWERED TONIGHT.
WHAT IS PUSHING YOU INTO HATING ME SO MUCH?
WHY ..?
CLING

MAY I SERVE YOU A WELCOME GLASS RESERVED FOR CHARMING WOMEN?
TOP

A WHISKEY ON THE ROCKS!
TOP
THAT.... IS REALITY!
FFF

MISS, YOU'RE SO BEAUTIFUL
THAT'S WHY I ASKED YOU TO TAKE THAT UGLY DISGUISE OFF!
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE'VE SEEN EACH OTHER!
CLING

IT'S ME.
TAKAAKI KAKINUMA,
YOUR OLD PUPIL
FROM CLASS B!



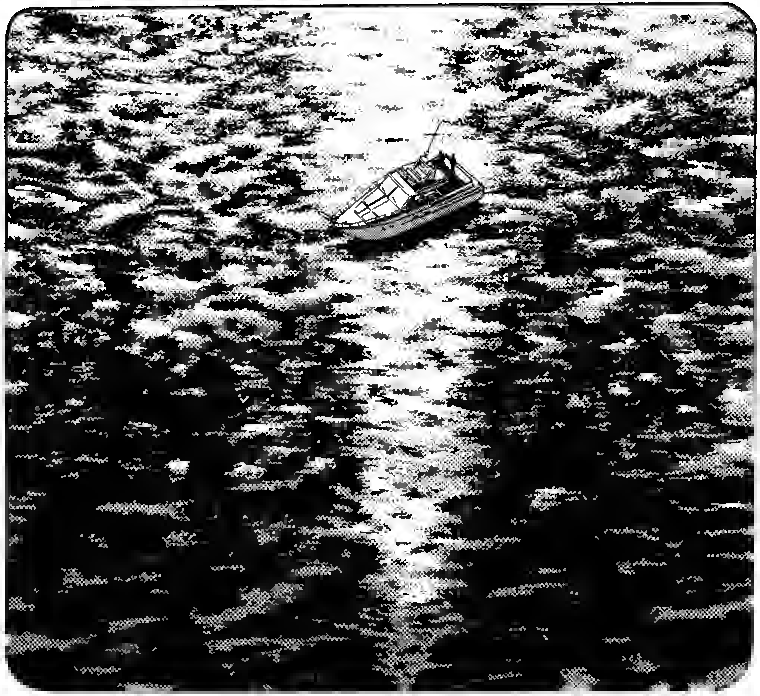
CHAPTER 52 : OVERTIME

I WAS YOUR PUPIL DURING THE SIX MONTHS THAT FOLLOWED THE BEGINNING OF THE TERM...
I'D LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING!
I WAS THE NEW PUPIL, TAKAAKI KAKINUMA!

TCHAC
CLING

TAKE YOUR TIME!
SORRY, WE'RE LEAVING NOW...
SSH!
I'M NOT THE OWNER OF THIS BAR, JUST A SHAREHOLDER. STILL, THIS GIVES ME SOME RIGHTS!

GOTO, DO YOU REMEMBER THE RULES OF THE GAME THAT WE AGREED ON DURING OUR NOCTURNAL FISHING PARTY ON MY BOAT?



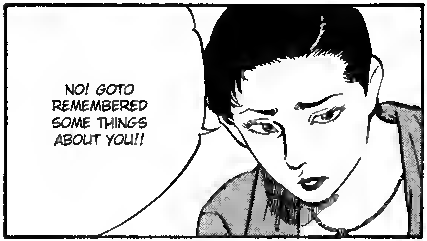
HOW CAN I WIN THIS GAME?
IF YOU REMEMBER BY YOURSELF, YOU'LL BE THE WINNER!
BUT IF I HAVE TO TELL YOU EVERYTHING...
...YOU'LL LOSE!

YOU COULDN'T REMEMBER ANYTHING IN THE END...
WAIT!
THAT'S UN-FAIR!
RULES ARE RULES!
YOUR JUDG-MENT?

I DECLARE MISTER DOJIMA OR RATHER MISTER KAKINUMA, WINNER!
VERY WELL!
IT'S GOOD FOR TONIGHT! YOU CAN GO BACK HOME!

WE REMEMBERED

GOOD, THE THREE PLAYERS OF THIS GAME ARE TOGETHER
THERE'S NOBODY UNWELCOME ANYMORE!

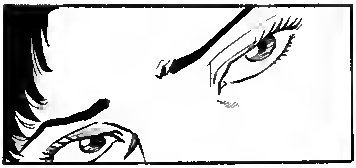

NO! GOTO REMEMBERED SOME THINGS ABOUT YOU!!

OR MAYBE YOU HAD AN IDEA IN YOUR HEAD THAT MADE YOU TO SHUT UP?
PFF... THAT'S TOO BAD...
YOU JUST HAD TO SAY MY NAME TO WIN!
BECAUSE OUR TEACHER REMEMBERED YOU... NOT ME!
GOTO...
I LOST...

IT'S REALLY STRANGE
BUT I COMPLETELY FORGOT
WHO YOU WERE...

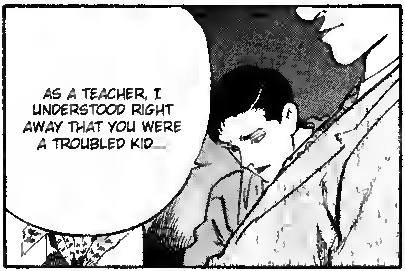
I CAN REMEMBER THE OTHER PUPILS OF THAT LAST YEAR IN PRIMARY SCHOOL, EVEN THOSE WHO WERE REALLY DISCRE-ET AND SHY...
THERE WAS ONLY YOU...
ME ?

WHY DON'T YOU CALL ME BY MY NAME?
HA HA HA
I WANT TO MAKE CLEAR THAT I'VE NEVER THREATENED YOU!



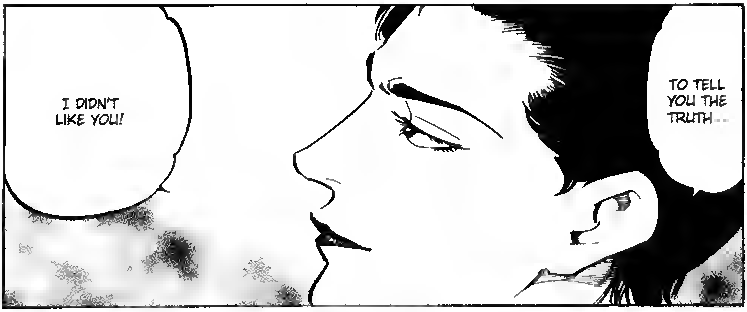
BUT... WHAT ON EARTH COULD GOTO DO TO YOU...?
WHY DO YOU HATE HIM SO MUCH?

WHATEVER, SINCE YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MEMORY OF ME, IT'S USE-LESS TO KEEP GOING LIKE THIS


AS A TEACHER, I UNDERSTOOD RIGHT AWAY THAT YOU WERE A TROUBLED KID...

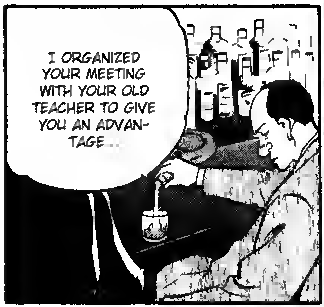
WAS IT AN ACT OF VIO-LENCE!?

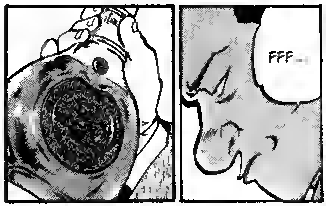
I'D LIKE YOU TO ANSWER THIS QUESTION AS A WRITER, NOT A TEACHER!
HOW COULD YOU QUALIFY A TROUBLED KID AS A DISCREET PUPIL...
...THAT NEVER BROKE THE RULES AND ALWAYS HAD GOOD MARKS?
WHY'S THAT?
YES... YOU'RE RIGHT!
I WAS REPUG-NANT TO YOU.
MAYBE YOU DIDN'T LIKE BUGS...?
THERE'S NO USE IN LYING ANYMORE!


I DIDN'T LIKE YOU!
TO TELL YOU THE TRUTH...

I'M GLAD TO SEE THAT WOMEN ARE STRAIGHT NOWADAYS. THEY DON'T CARE ABOUT WHAT'S APPROPRIATE OR NOT!
IT SUITS ME!
HA, RIGHT...

WOULD I HAVE DONE SOMETHING
THAT HURT YOU WITHOUT NOTICING...?
YES, THAT'S IT!


I ORGANIZED YOUR MEETING WITH YOUR OLD TEACHER TO GIVE YOU AN ADVANTAGE...


FFF...

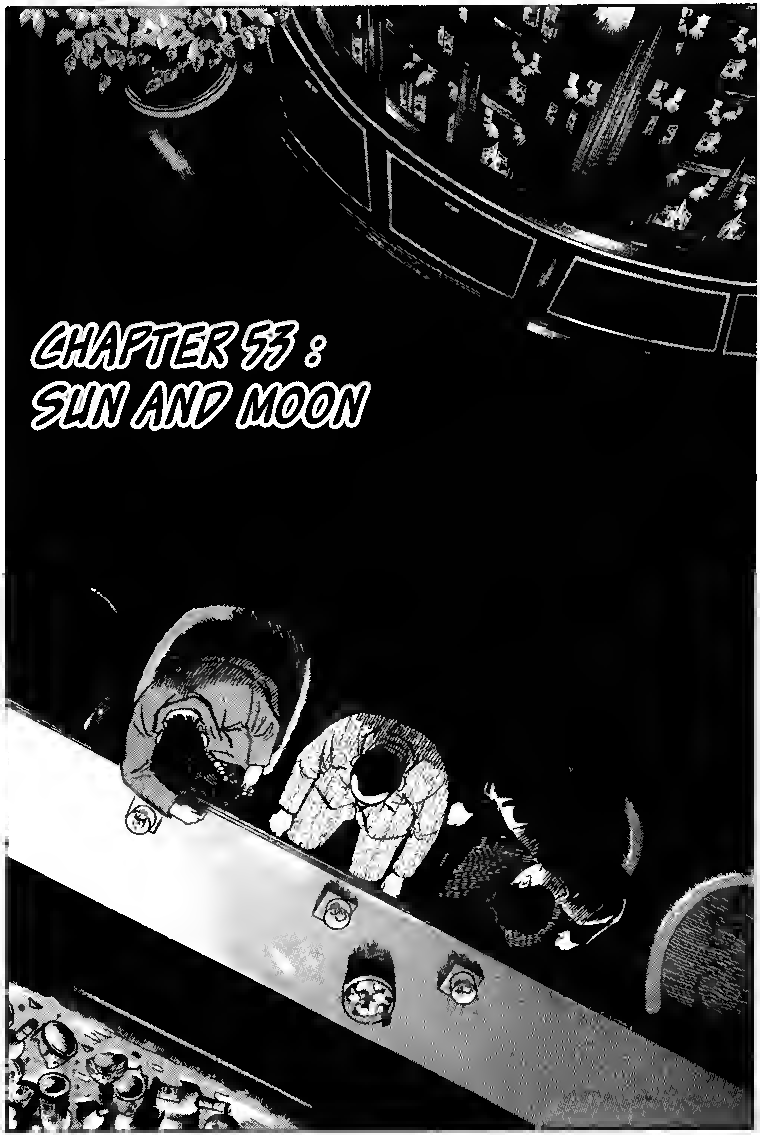
AS THE WINNER, I HAVE THE RIGHT TO KILL YOU!

N
N
G
L
B

I'M NOT DELIGHTED WITH SUCH A VICTORY!

LET'S PLAY OVERTIME!

PEOPLE LIKE YOU, WHO LIVE IN HOPE UNTIL THE VERY LAST MOMENT...
IS THAT HUMANISM...? NO!!
IT'S NOT MORALE EITHER!!


CHAPTER 53 :
SUN AND MOON

SO THAT HOPE PUSHES YOU TO RANCOR?
FLOC
BRAVO!
WHY DID YOU CHOOSE GOTO AS A TARGET INSTEAD OF ME...?
LOCKING UP FOR TEN YEARS SOMEONE WHO DIDN'T COMMIT ANY CRIME, IT'S AMAZING...

DIDN'T COMMIT ANY CRIME...?

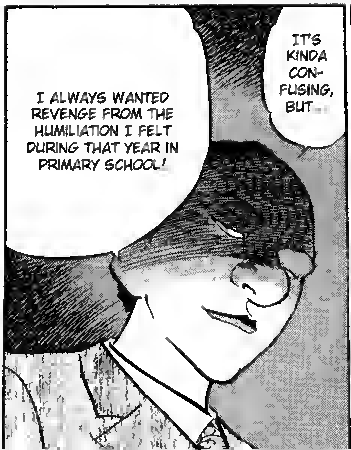
AREN'T YOU LOOKING FOR REVENGE AGAINST ALL THOSE WORRIES THAT WERE CHASING YOU?
YOU'RE LOOKING FOR FAME AND MONEY... MAYBE GLORY ?
WHY DID YOU BECOME A WRITER?
HA HA HA
ALL OF THAT LACKS ORIGINALITY!
WHY DID YOU ORDER ME A BOOK AND PAY ME 50 MILLION YEN?

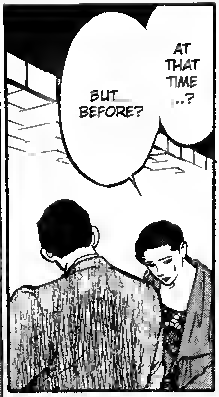
COME ON, GOTO! YOU'RE PART OF THIS OLD BOYS' MEETING, TOO!
TCHK!
I'M WELL OFF!
I COULD ACCUMULATE MANY ASSETS OF A HUGE VALUE BY SPECULATING ON REAL ESTATE, BUT...
REALLY SOON, I SENSED THAT I WAS ABOUT TO REACH THE SATURATION POINT OF THOSE MONEY GAMES!
MY YOUTH WAS LIKE A PERIOD OF ECONOMIC BUBBLE...
WHEN I ENTERED THE ACTIVE LIFE, I WORKED IN THE STOCK MARKET...

BUT THE BURSTING OF THE ECONOMIC BUBBLE DIDN'T AFFECT ME BECAUSE I HAD ALREADY MOVED ALL MY FINANCIAL GOODS!
YOU PROBABLY KNOW ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FINANCIAL ORGANIZATIONS, WHICH ONLY DID THE NECESSARY WORK, AND TO ALL THOSE CLIENTS WHO TRANSFORMED INTO FINANCIAL OGRES.
BUT IF WE ANALYZE THE ECONOMY OF THE LATEST YEARS WE CAN EASILY CONCLUDE THAT IT WAS NORMAL!
DID I CORRECTLY ANSWER TO YOUR INTERROGATIONS ABOUT MY NOTION OF MONEY?

IT WAS TEN YEARS AGO...
AFTERWARDS... THE SPECULATIONS ON THE DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY SECTOR PROGRESSED, EVEN IF THEY'RE NOTHING COMPARED TO WHAT'S HAPPENING RIGHT NOW...
AFTER THE BURSTING OF THE ECONOMIC BUBBLE, I WAS IN A SOMNOLENCE STATE; I COMPLETELY LOST MY WILL...
IT'S AT THAT TIME THAT I REMEMBERED YOU, GOTO!

WELL... THAT MAN, ADMIRED BY ALL...
WHAT DID HE BECOME?


I ALWAYS WANTED REVENGE FROM THE HUMILIATION I FELT DURING THAT YEAR IN PRIMARY SCHOOL!
IT'S KINDA CONFUSING, BUT...


BUT... BEFORE?
AT THAT TIME ...?

I THINK THE TIME HAD COME TO START UP THE PLAN...
SO YOUR DESIRE FOR MONEY BECAME ONE FOR REVENGE, IS THAT IT?!
HAHAHA... IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE!
IT'S SOMETHING DEEPLY IMPLANTED IN ME, OBVIOUSLY SOMETHING LINKED WITH AN IDENTITY PROBLEM.
ANYWAY, I HIRED SOMEONE TO FIND YOU.

サッポロビール
円

IF I HAD TO SUM UP THE INFORMATION THE AGENCY GAVE ME, THAT WOULD BE THE RESULT...
UNKNOWN, POOR, AND SMART...
THAT VERY DISTINGUISHED BOY WHO WAS IN MY CLASS...
THE GOTO I KNEW... IMPOSSIBLE?!
I DIDN'T BELIEVE IT!
WHAT WAS YOUR IMPRESSION OF GOTO AT THAT TIME?
LET'S ASK THE TEACHER, THEN!
REALLY?
IT'S ONLY YOUR OPINION!
GLOU

THE BOTH OF YOU WERE THE BEST OF THAT CLASS!
IT'S LIKE YOU HAD SOMETHING IN SUPERABUN-DANCE..
AT THAT TIME, I DIDN'T USE THE WORDS LIKE I DO NOW. THAT'S WHY I DIDN'T REALLY REALIZE IT, BUT...
WELL...
LIKE THE SUN AND THE MOON...
IT'S THE BEST COMPARISON I CAN DO!

GOTO WOULD BE THE SUN, THE POSITIVE SIDE...
WHEREAS ME, I'D BE THE MOON, THE NEGATIVE SIDE, RIGHT?!
IF ONLY YOU KNEW HOW MUCH I HATE YOUR WAY OF THINKING!

I THINK I'VE UNDERSTOOD...
WAIT!
LIKE YOU, NO, MORE THAN YOU, I COMMITED A BUNCH OF MISDEEDS...
THAT'S WHY, IN ORDER TO NOT NOTICE IT, I LIVED A MODEST AND PEACEFUL LIFE AS A STEADY MAN...
YES...
I SEE THAT WE'RE SLOWLY COMING TO THE SAME WAVELENGTH ! MAKE A LITTLE MORE EFFORT!
THAT DESPERATE CHOICE, YOU DARE CONSIDERING IT AS HYPOCRISY...?

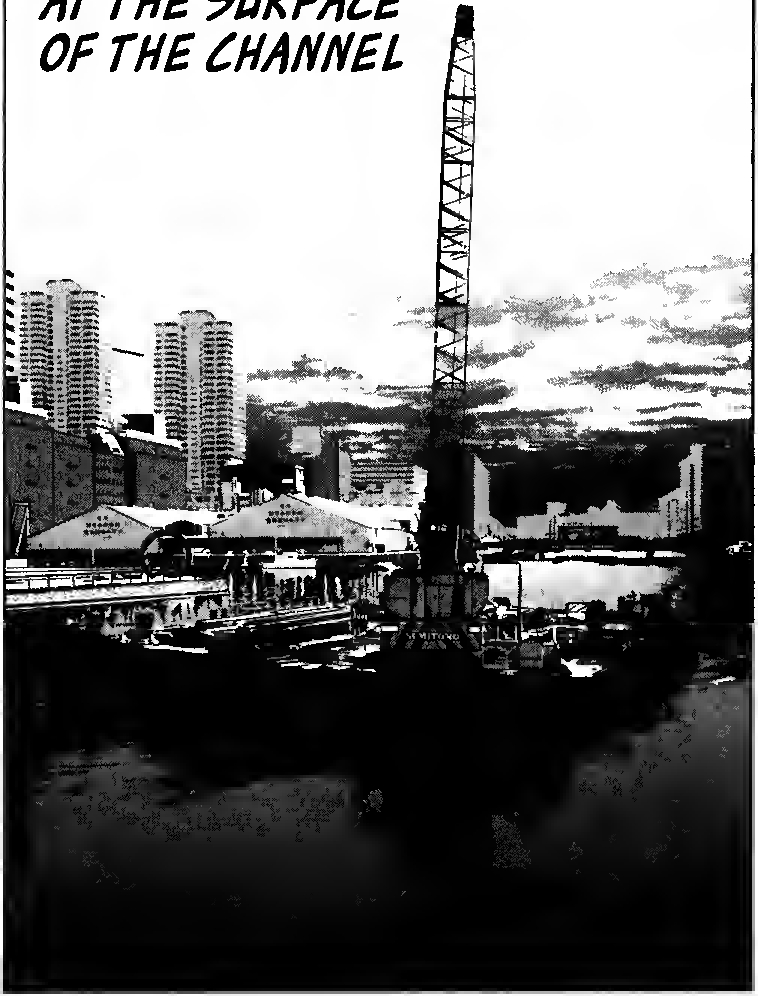
NOW YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER WHAT WAS THE EVENT THAT DEEPLY HURT ME!
PSCH!
WHY DID I ORDER YOU A NOVEL?
BUT LET'S ANSWER MISS KUSAMA'S QUESTION FIRST!

AS PLANNED, YOU WOULD HAVE GIVEN ME THE FRESH PRINTED BOOK...

THAT MANUS-
CRIPT ISN'T A
NOVEL...!

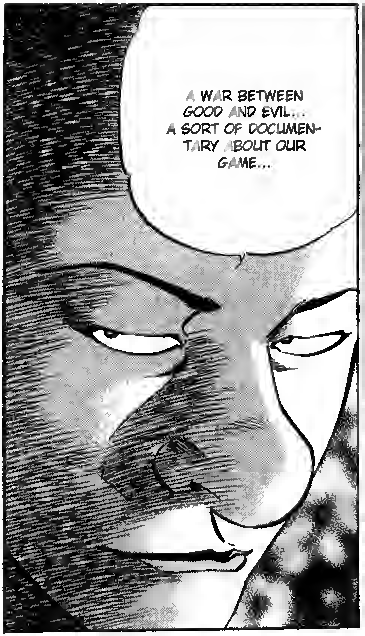
THAT'S WHAT I PLANNED TO DO
BUT I DIDN'T HAVE ANY OTHER CHOICE BUT TO MODIFY MY SCENARIO
HOPING THAT THE EVENTS WOULD TAKE A MORE INTERESTING DIRECTION

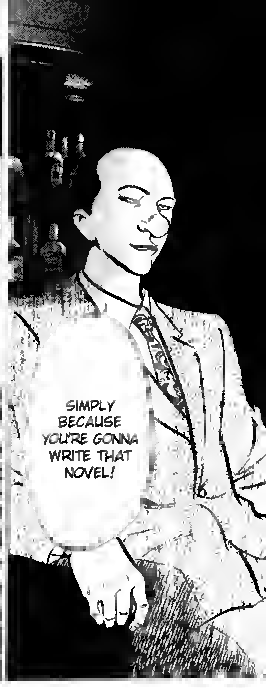
CHAPTER 54 : AT THE SURFACE OF THE CHANNEL



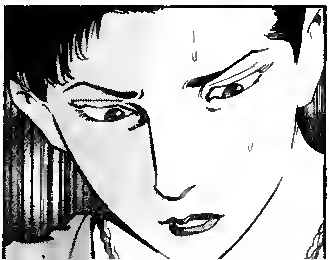
I WANNA ASK YOU SOMETHING, JUST TO KNOW...
HOW MUCH IS LEFT?
THE MONEY... I'M GONNA GIVE IT ALL BACK TO YOU!
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT...

ONE DAY, I'LL WRITE A BEST-SELLER AND I'LL PAY YOU BACK! YOU'LL SEE!
HALF . I'D SAY YOU HAVE ABOUT ONE HALF LEFT!
YOU SPENT SO MUCH MONEY HAVING FUN AND GETTING INFORMATION ALONG WITH THE RENT OF YOUR APARTMENT AT 15 MILLION YEN PER MONTH
SO MILLION IS JUST A TRIFLE TO ME!
I ALREADY TOLD YOU, DIDN'T I!? WE DON'T HAVE THE SAME NOTION OF MONEY!
IT'S NO USE!
PFF PFF..
IT'S NO USE TO PAY BACK THE MONEY FROM THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE OLD AMERICAN WOMAN OF JAPANESE ORIGINS AND YOU!
THE SAME FOR THE 300 MILLION I SPENT TO LOCK YOU UP!


A WAR BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL... A SORT OF DOCUMENTARY ABOUT OUR GAME...


SIMPLY BECAUSE YOU'RE GONNA WRITE THAT NOVEL!

WE'LL NEVER KNOW WHO, BETWEEN GOTO AND I, WILL HAVE THE ROLE OF THE GOOD GUY...
BUT...



I DON'T CARE IF THE SALES ARE GOOD OR NOT... YOU'LL HAVE TO WORK LIKE A PROFESSIONAL! I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE THE COMEBACK IN THE LITERARY WORLD OF THE GREAT NOVEL WRITER YAYOI KUSAMA AFTER SUCH A LONG ABSENCE!!
I QUIT THE AGENT JOB
CLANG

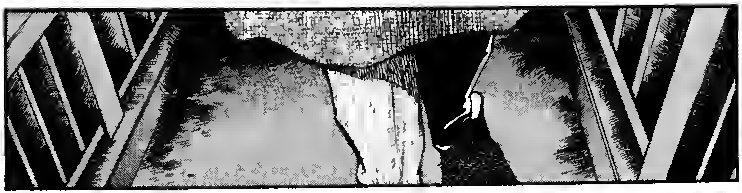
DO YOU WANT ME TO SHOW YOU THE CORPSE?

AS THE WINNER, I HAVE THE RIGHT TO KILL GOTO...
BUT I PROPOSE YOU PLAY OVERTIME
HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE ANNOYING TO UNDERESTIMATE ME MORE THAN YOU ALREADY DID UP UNTIL NOW!
IF I HAD TO KILL SOMEONE...
IT WOULD BE SOMEONE CLOSE TO GOTO, RIGHT?
DO YOU WANT ME TO SHOW YOU THE CORPSE ...?

BADAM
TO THE RAKUSUI BRIDGE, NEAR THE SHINAGAWA STATION!
ALRIGHT!

BUT... WHO!?

HEY!!
HE ALWAYS DOES A PERFECT JOB!
MY DETECTIVE, THE ONE YOU ALREADY MET ...

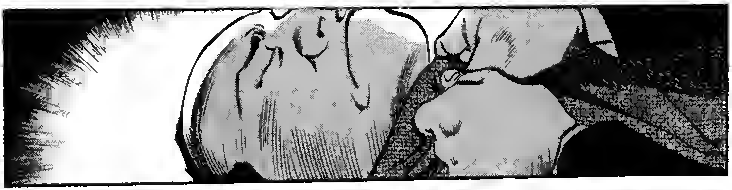


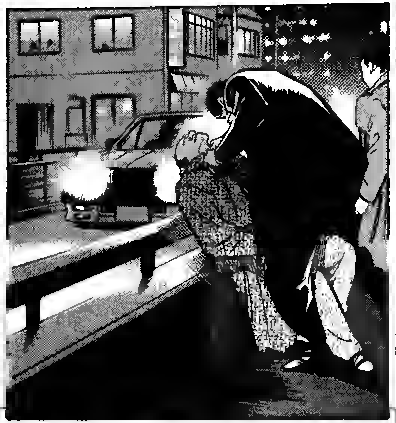
FLISH
FLISH

lemon

I DIDN'T WANT TO KILL ANYONE ELSE..

TSUKAMOTO
!!!





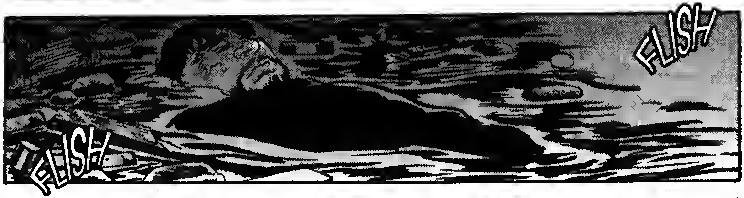
AT LAST, WILL YOU FOCUS SOME MORE AND TRY TO REMEMBER WHAT THAT EVENT WAS?
PFF PFF...
FLISH
FLISH
GOTO, YOU MUSTN'T KILL HIM!
GROOH
FFF
FFF
FFF
HAA
HAA

...!?
IF YOU OFFICIALLY ACCEPT TO PLAY OVERTIME...
I MIGHT REVIVE THAT CORPSE!
FU!!
ALL THIS IS JUST A STAGING!
MISTER ...

WE JUST ANAESTHETIZED HIM AND PUT A LIFEBELT UNDER HIS CLOTHES
HE'S JUST IN LETHARGY!
IS THAT REALLY A CORPSE?
DO YOU ACCEPT THE OVERTIME?
HE PLAYS HIS ROLE OF DROWNED VERY WELL ..
BUT IF HE STAYS IN THE WATER FOR TOO LONG, ESPECIALLY IN THIS SEASON ..

YES...

YES OR NO?


FLISH
FLISH

HURRY UP...
AND REMEMBER WHAT THAT EVENT WAS!

CHAPTER 55 : A TEMPORARY CORPSE

...
WHEN WE WERE CLASSMATES YOU DEEPLY HURT ME ALL OF A SUDDEN
IF YOU CAN'T REMEMBER THEN, NEXT TIME, IT'LL BE A REAL CORPSE
HAHA
YOU STILL PLAY THE NOBLE GUY! I'LL NEVER UNDERSTAND YOU!
IF YOU WANNA KILL SOMEONE, KILL ME!!
WHY?

I JUST REALI-ZED YOU DON'T CARE MUCH FOR YOUR LIFE
QUICK!!
DO SOME-THING!!
...!?
HOP
YOU'LL FIND HIM IN HIS BAR IN SEVERAL HOURS, BY MORNING AT THE LATEST
I'D LIKE YOU TO LEAVE NOW

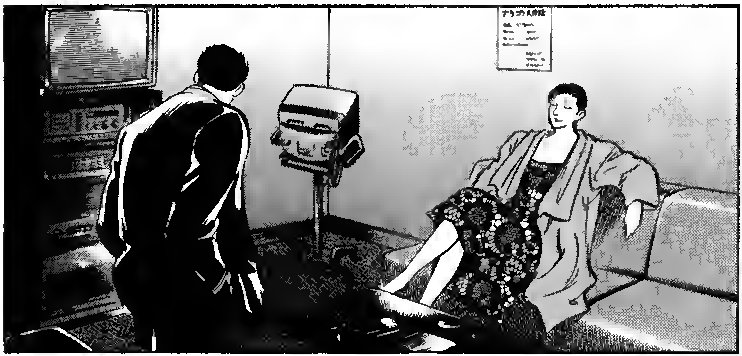
KRIII
WELL, I'LL LEAVE YOU THERE FOR TONIGHT!
MISS KUSAMA, I'M COUNTING ON YOU TO SUPPORT GOTO!
BADAM
THE MAN WHO WAS FLOATING AT THE SURFACE OF THE CHANNEL IS THE ONE YOU TOLD ME ABOUT, THE BOSS OF THE BAR IN SHINJUKU, RIGHT?

VROUM
BECAUSE I REALIZED THAT IT WAS THE WORST THING ON EARTH!
AT THAT TIME I HAD SOME PROBLEMS, ESPECIALLY WITH MY DIVORCE, AND I TOLD MYSELF I'D NEVER BECOME A TEACHER AGAIN
PFF...
IT'S LIKE I FEEL THE SAME THING I DID WHEN I DECIDED TO BECOME A WRITER!

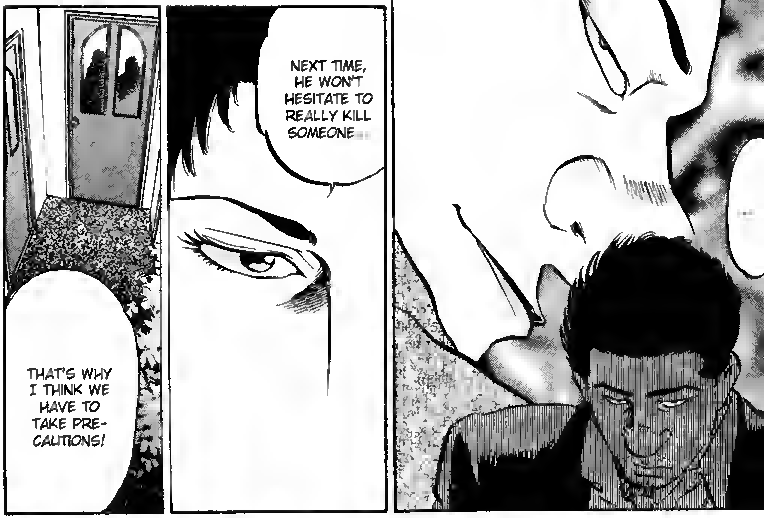
MOON DOG
CLAC
WAH, IT'S NOT BAD!
CLIC

IT WAS AROUND 8 PM...
WHEN DID YOU LEAVE THE BAR TO MEET ME?
BY MORNING AT THE LATEST ...
AND NOW?
...IT'S 3 AM...
LET'S HAVE SOME FUN TO PASS THE TIME!
I THINK IT WAS DANGEROUS TO DISCUSS OVER THERE!

カラオケ
KARAOKE
全28室
5F



NOBODY CAN HEAR US HERE!
INDEED
KAKINUMA IS REALLY SERIOUS!
GOTO..
PSHH


NEXT TIME, HE WON'T HESITATE TO REALLY KILL SOMEONE...
THAT'S WHY I THINK WE HAVE TO TAKE PRE-CAUTIONS!

WHO WOULD BE THE ONE IN YOUR ENTOU-RAGE, WHOM YOU'D FEEL REAL PAIN IF HE DIED!?

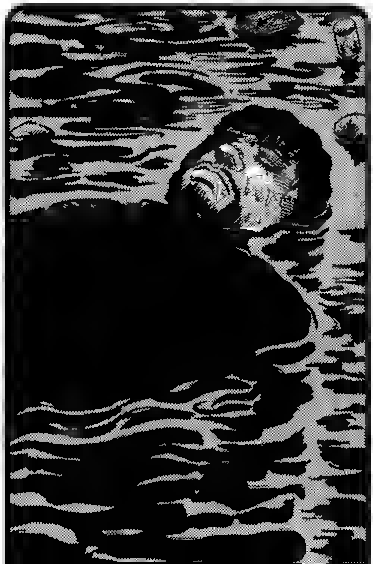
MISTER...

DO YOU LOVE EACH OTHER?
I THINK I GET IT.... IT'S THE GIRL YOU MET THE NIGHT YOU WERE FREED....?
DIDN'T I ALREADY TELL YOU!? I'M AT THE MAX OF MY ADRENALINE!!
DON'T MAKE SUCH A SAD FACE!
KAKINUMA HAS ALREADY FIGURED OUT EVERYTHING ....
THAT GIRL IS THE MASTERPIECE OF THE OVERTIME!
FOR NOW, WE HAVE TO TAKE ERI AWAY FROM KAKINUMA'S SPIES.

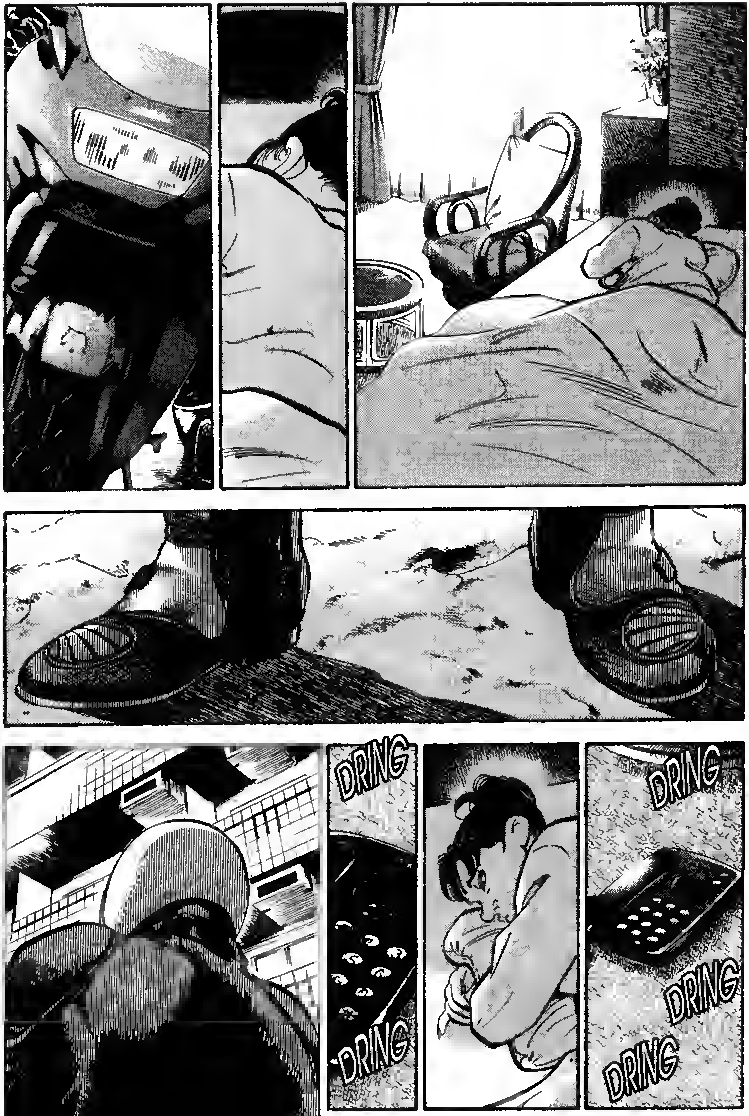
CLAC
GOOD EVENING
AH, IT'S YOU, GOTO
MOON DOG

OUH... YOU LOOK LIKE A COUPLE WHO HAS SOMETHING TO HIDE!
NO, STOP!!
YOU KNOW WHAT, MISTER GOTO...?
HEH, YEAH...
I INVITED YOUR BARMAN FOR A RIDE IN MY CAR!

HE FELL ASLEEP ALL OF A SUDDEN!
I MIGHT BE SICK ...!?



I MUST NO LONGER BE IN MY RIGHT MIND, BECAUSE I DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING!
AICHOU!


DRING
DRING
DRING
DRING
DRING

DRII-
IING
LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE MAN WHO WILL SOON BE AT YOUR APARTMENT!
IT'S ME!
CLAC
DING
DONG

ASKED ME TO BRING YOU FAR AWAY FROM HERE RIGHT NOW!
MISTER GOTO...

VROUM
...!!

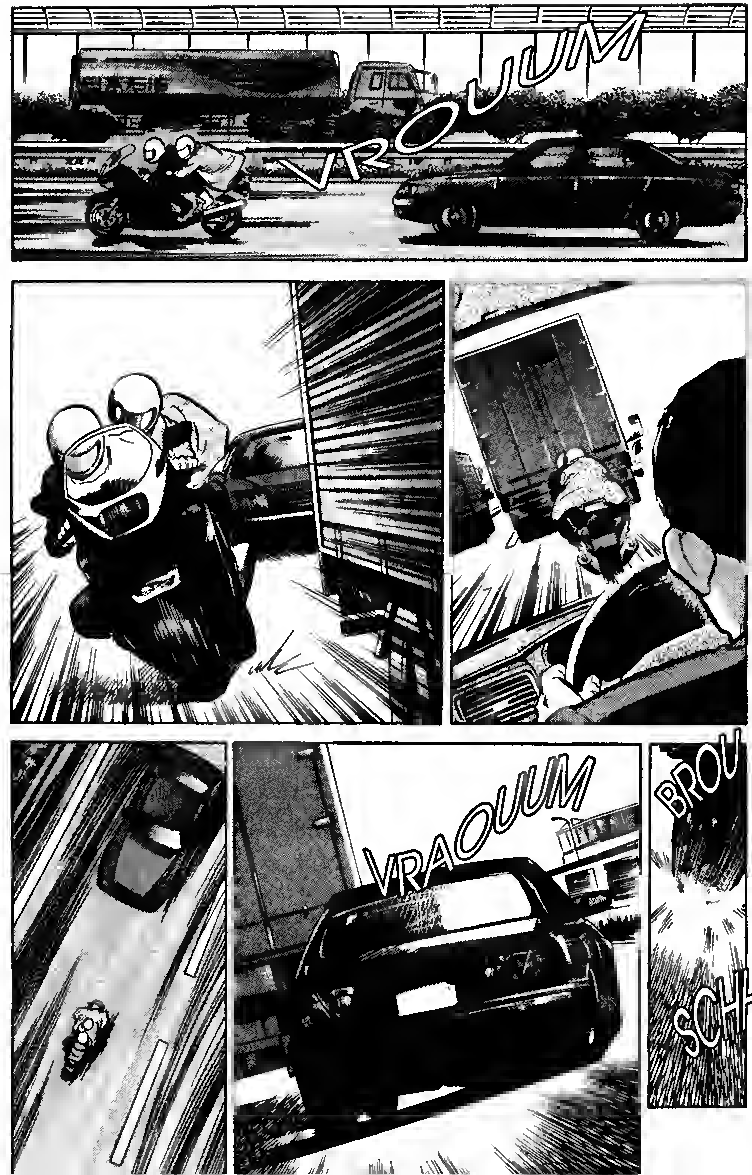
CHAPTER 56 :
MAX

A)
y
A PROVO-
CATION...!?
VROUUM

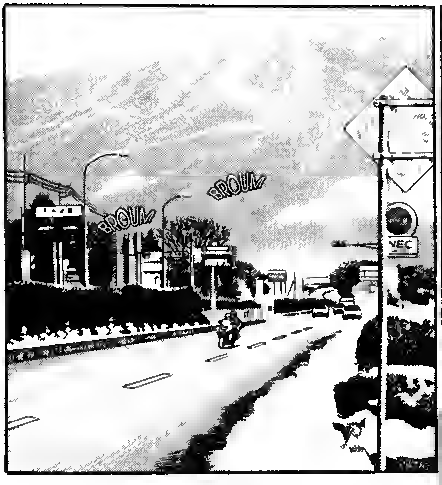
HOP
HOP
SHIT!! IF ONLY IT WASN'T RUSH HOUR..
I LOST THEM..!!

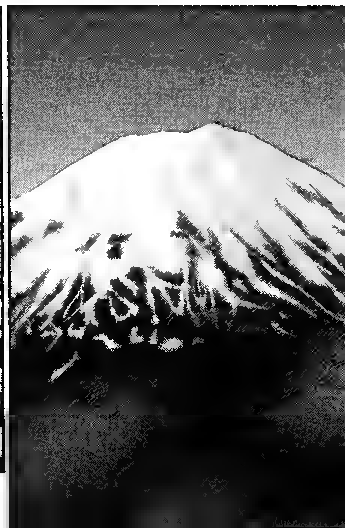
NO WAY... HE'S TRYING TO GUIDE ME...?
東名高速
TOMEI EXPWY
1 東京
首都高速
用賀入口

VROUM
PFF... THIS CAR HIDES A MORE POWERFUL ENGINE THAN ONE WOULD BELIEVE.
VRA
OOM
VROUM


VROUUM
VRAOUUM
BROU
SCHH

230 KM/H = 143 MPH

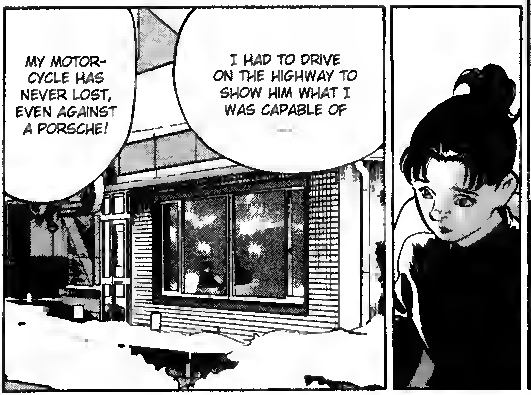

VROUM
VROUM

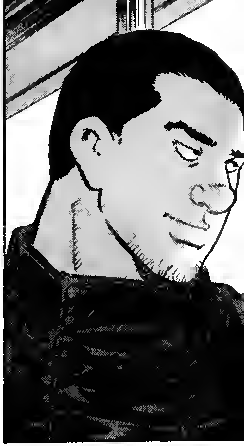


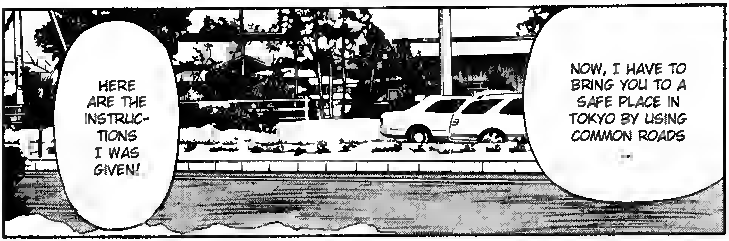
RESTAURANT
TAC

SWITCH-
ING THE
LICENSE
PLATE?
IT SEEMS THAT
THE MAN WHO'S
CHASING US CAN
EASILY FIND ME
JUST WITH ITS
NUMBER, SO...

I LIED A BIT, SORRY!
WAS IT MISTER GOTO WHO ASKED YOU TO DO THIS...!?
IT'S ME! LISTEN CAREFULLY TO THE MAN WHO WILL SOON BE AT YOUR APARTMENT!
IS THAT ENOUGH FOR YOU?
BUT SHE'S AN ALLY...
IT'S SOMEONE YOU DON'T KNOW...


MY MOTOR-CYCLE HAS NEVER LOST, EVEN AGAINST A PORSCHE!
I HAD TO DRIVE ON THE HIGHWAY TO SHOW HIM WHAT I WAS CAPABLE OF




HERE ARE THE INSTRUC-TIONS I WAS GIVEN!
NOW, I HAVE TO BRING YOU TO A SAFE PLACE IN TOKYO BY USING COMMON ROADS

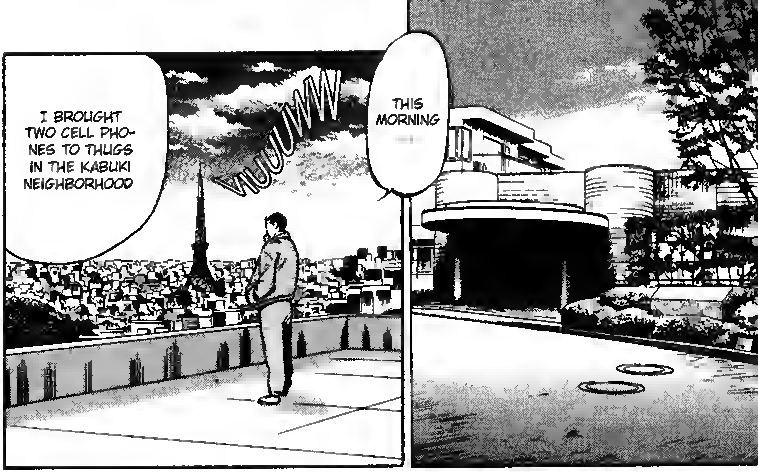
I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING ELSE!

A SAFE PLACE..!?

VROW
VROOM

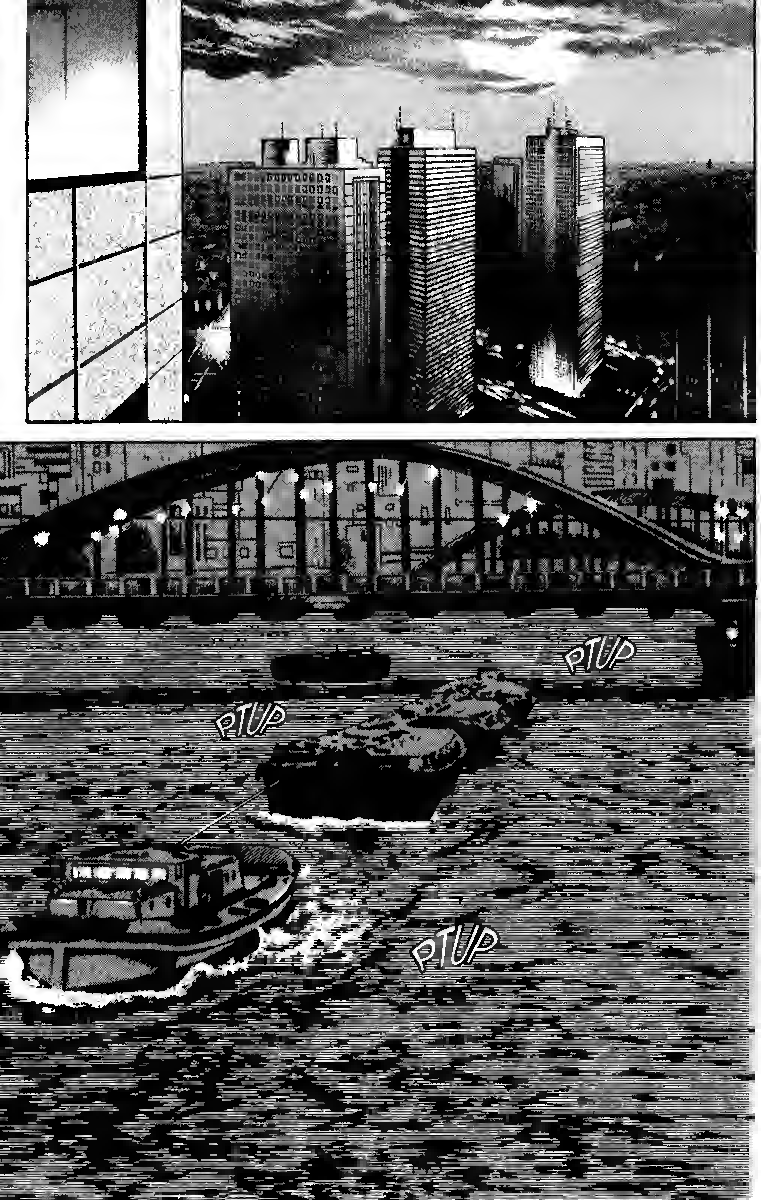
MOON DOG
BRR
BRR
BRR
BRR
BRR
BRR
BIP

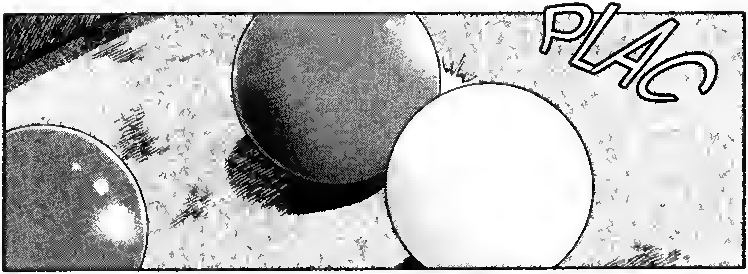
GOOD MORN-ING
GO FOR A WALK!
WHATEVER HAPPENS, YOU CAN'T STOP!
八証券

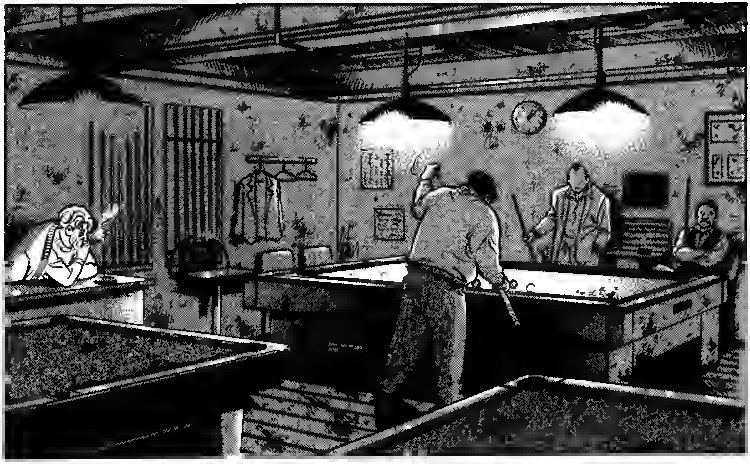

I BROUGHT TWO CELL PHONES TO THUGS IN THE KABUKI NEIGHBORHOOD
VUUUUUU
THIS MORNING

IT'S ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE FOR KAKINUMA TO INTERCEPT THIS COMMUNICATION!
THEY USE COUNTLESS NUMBERS OF FREQUENCIES

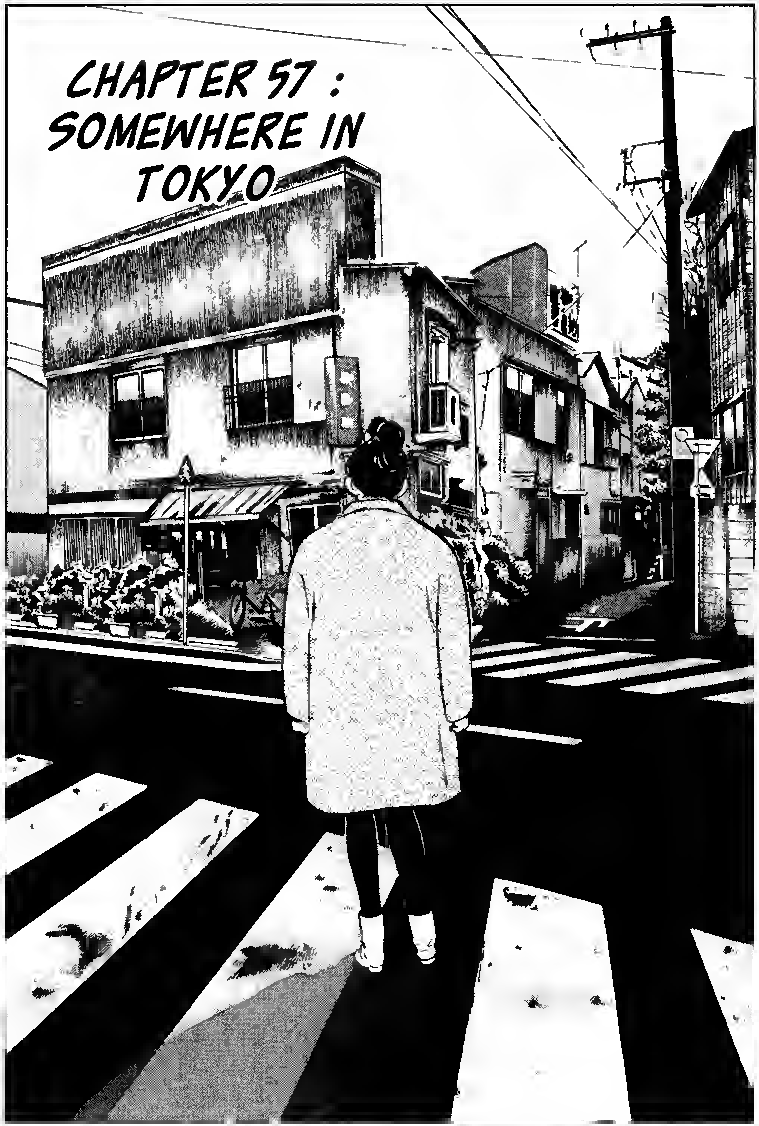
I'D RATHER NOT TELL YOU RIGHT NOW, FOR YOUR SAKE!
WHERE... WHERE IS IT?
I SENT ERI TO A SAFE PLACE IN TOKYO, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT ANYMORE!


PTUP
PTUP
PTUP


PLAC



CLAC
TAP
TAP
KSS
KSS
BRAVO KICHIDA!
DID YOU GET A STIMULANT BEFORE COMING HERE?
YEAH!
HERE YOU ARE
THANK YOU

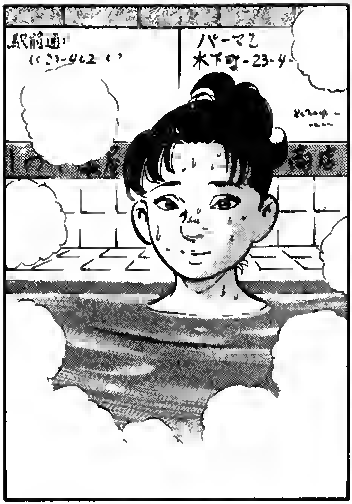

CHAPTER 57 :
SOMEWHERE IN
TOKYO

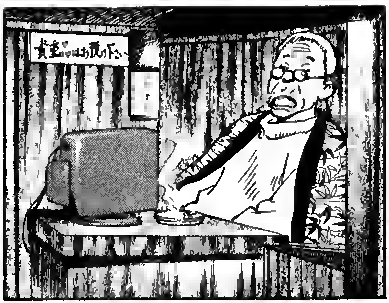
TSH!
SAY, DO YOU THINK YOU CAN STAY IN A POOL HALL LED BY A RETIRED?

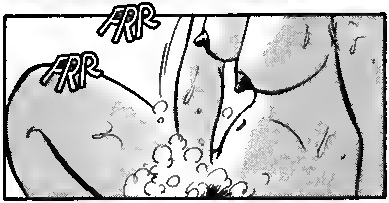
MY BACK HURTS MORE EVERYDAY...
ANYWAY, IT HAPPENS AT THE RIGHT TIME!
HA... YES, I THINK SO!
HM... I JUST FINISHED SWEEPING OUT. IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE I CAN DO?
PFA
YES, THAT'S IT, GOOD!
YOU HAVE TO COLLECT THE CHALK POWDER LIKE THIS
PFA
PFA
PFA

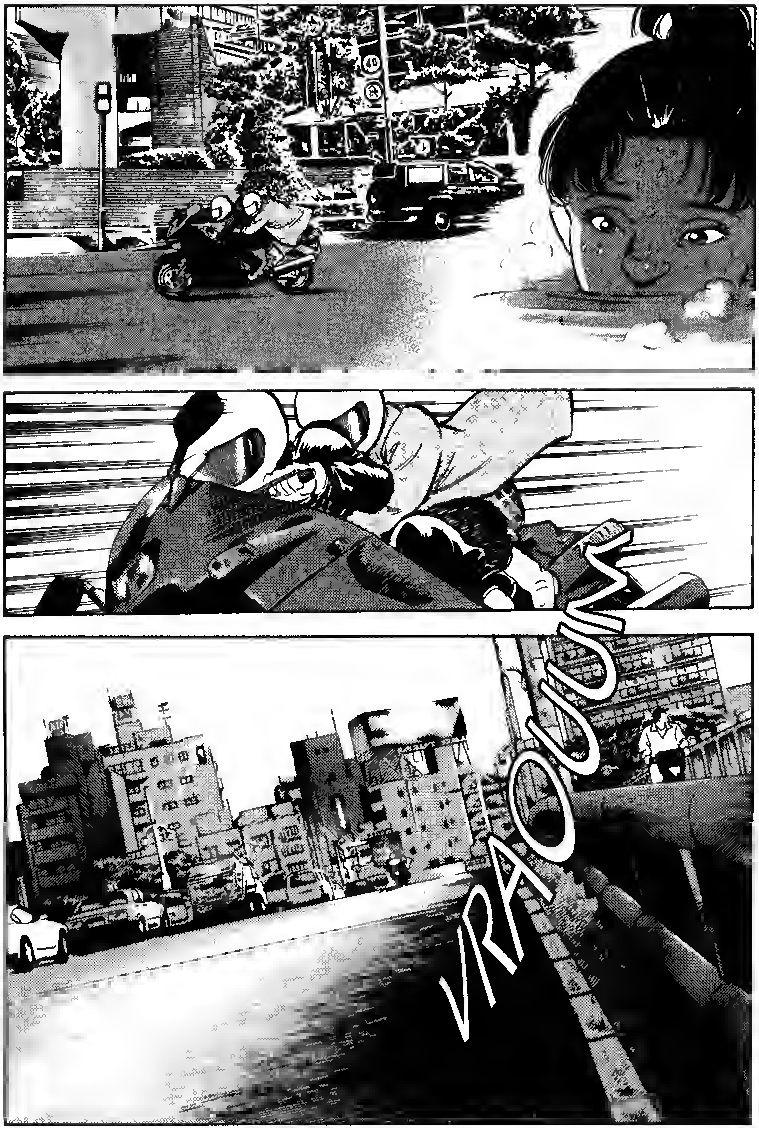
THERE'S NO ONE IN THE ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR YOU CAN USE IT AS MUCH AS YOU WANT!
YOU HAVE BOARD AND LODGING, BUT IT'S NOT AS GOOD AS A HOTEL...
PLFF
HOP
IT'S REALLY NICE OF YOU TO WELCOME ME HERE!
ONE LAST THING, CLOSE THE DOOR!
THERE ARE PUBLIC BATHS NEAR HERE!
OKAY!
THANK YOU!
I DON'T THINK IT'S TOO LATE TODAY! TAKE A BATH AND REST!

KRR
KRR
KRR
CHAC
I RATHER LIKE THIS KIND OF PLACE...

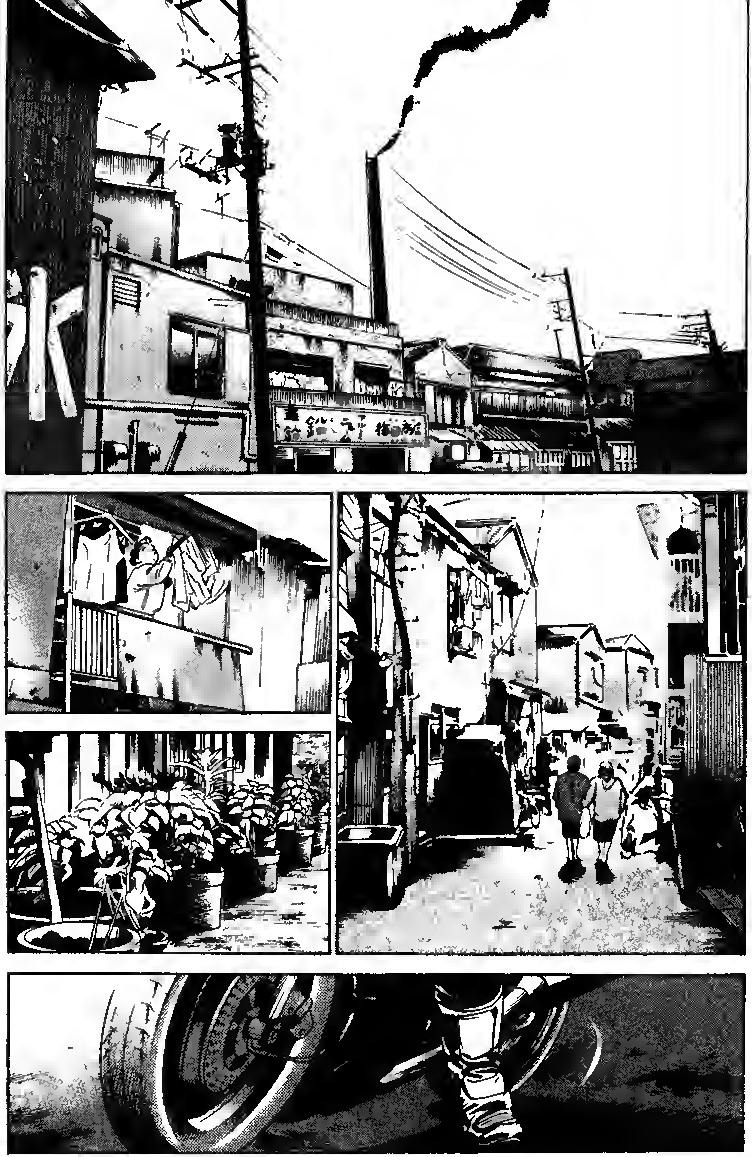

パーマこ
木下町-23-4




ARR
ARR


VRAOUUM

VRAOUM

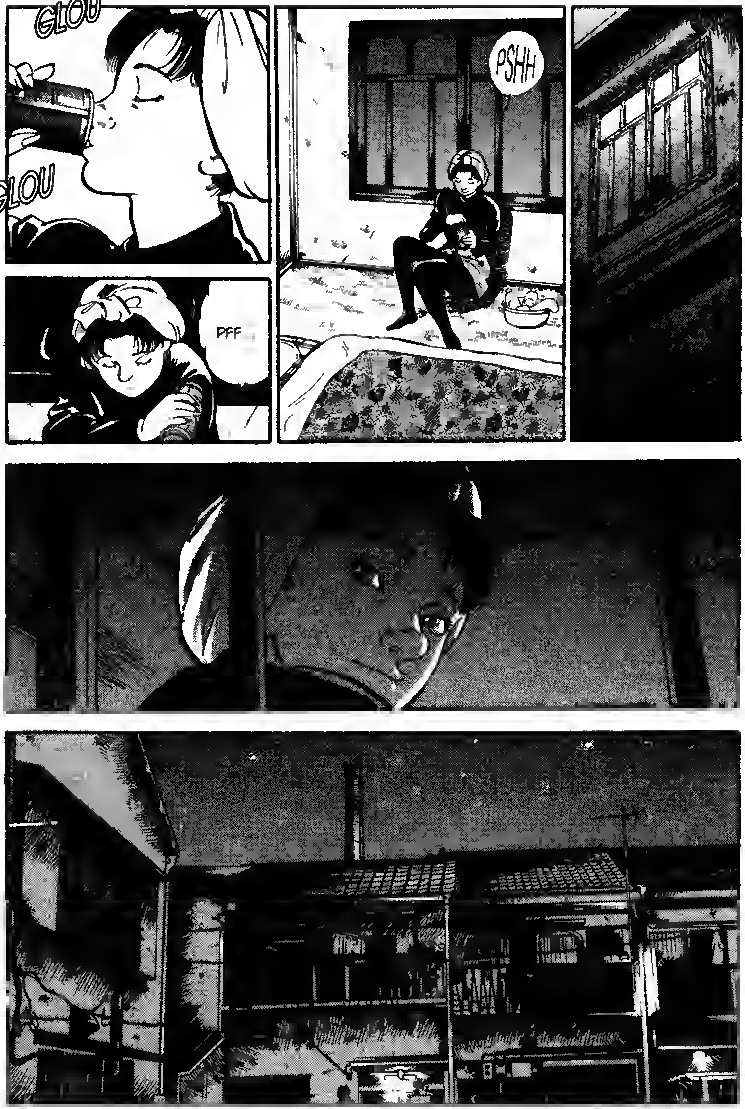


ビリヤード

ビリヤード
BILLIARD
I WAS TOLD YOU HAD TO LIVE IN THIS POOL HALL FOR A WHILE!
I HEARD THERE'S NO SAFER PLACE IN TOKYO FOR SOMEONE WHO WANTS TO HIDE, AS LONG AS HE DOESN'T LEAVE THE NEIGH-BORHOOD!

VRAOUM
THAT'S WHAT THE PERSON WHO WANTS TO PROTECT ME TOLD YOU, RIGHT?
We're looking for an employee
possible lodging
AAH!

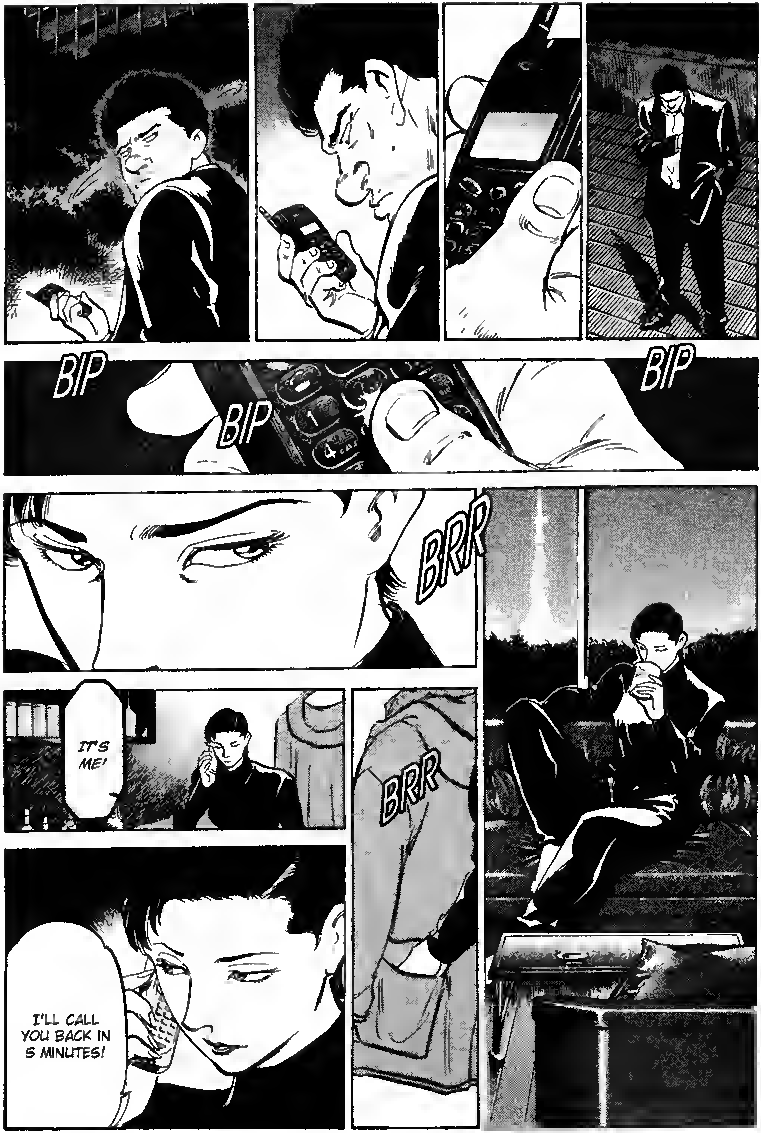
TSCHK
TSCHK
CLING
CLANG
TSCHK


GLOU
GLOU
PSHH
PFF

HAAAAA
HAAAAA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA
HA

WIUUUW
WIUUUW
I SENT ERI TO A SAFE PLACE IN TOKYO, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT ANYMORE!
WHERE... WHERE IS IT?
I'D RATHER NOT TELL YOU RIGHT NOW, FOR YOUR SAKE!

W
U
U
I
I
W


BIP
BIP
BIP
BRR
IT'S ME!
BRR
I'LL CALL YOU BACK IN 5 MINUTES!

P

YOU MUST NOT STOP WALKING!

BUT ONE DAY, HE GOT MAD BECAUSE OF SOMETHING I TOLD HIM...
AND HE TRIED TO MAKE ME DISAP-PEAR!

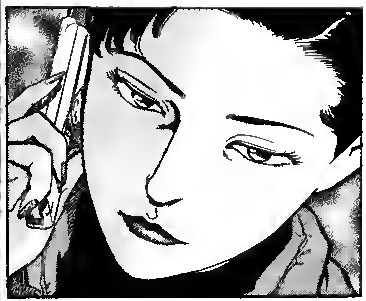
SEVERAL YEARS AGO, WHEN I WAS LOOKING FOR SOME INFORMATION, I MET A BIG SHOT IN THE MAFIA...
I WAS AN ECCENTRIC WRITER, AND HE KINDA LIKED THAT...!

"FINALLY, ISN'T MONEY YOUR FIRST PRIORITY?"
WELL ..
THAT THING . WHAT WAS IT?
I DIDN'T WANT TO GET KILLED, SO I THOUGHT OF A PLAN..
WE PRETENDED TO GO EAST
BUT IN FACT, I TOOK SHELTER IN A POOL HALL IN THE KYOJIMA SURROUNDINGS FOR ONE YEAR. IT'S A PLACE WHERE TIME SEEMS TO HAVE STOPPED, NEAR THE ASAKUSA NEIGHBORHOOD IN TOKYO!
I CALLED MY FRIEND MAX AND WE RAN AWAY ON THE TOKYO-NAGOYA ROADWAY!

KAKINUMA WILL NEVER FIND HER IN THAT DEAD ANGLE, EVEN WITH A GREAT INFORMATION NETWORK!
MAX BROUGHT ERI THERE, JUST LIKE HE DID TO ME SEVERAL YEARS AGO!
I'M SURE ABOUT IT!

CHAPTER 58 :
ON THAT EPOCH...

YOU MUST NOT STOP WALKING!



GOTO, THERE'S ONE MORE QUESTION I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU!
IT'S SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT
...?!
WHEN YOU WERE FREED FROM YOUR 10 YEARS OF ARBITRARY RECLUSION, WHY DIDN'T YOU EXPLAIN THE WHOLE THING TO THE POLICE ..?
EVEN IF THEY WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SOLVE THE CASE...
AT LEAST YOU WOULDN'T HAVE BEEN KAKINUMA'S TOY, LIKE YOU ARE RIGHT NOW...
IT DOESN'T SUIT YOU...

NO DOUBT THAT'S WHY I COULD BEAR THOSE 10 YEARS OF SPECIAL LIFE...
ON THAT EPOCH I BELIEVE THAT... I DIDN'T REALLY LIKE THE PEACEFUL LIFE I HAD. IT WAS TOO DULL!
THE FACT THAT I HADN'T BEEN KILLED WAS LIKE A SIGN...
I WAS SURE THAT ONE DAY, THE CULPRIT WOULD SHOW UP!

SHIT!! YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE! IN THE LAST SIX MONTHS, KAKINUMA HAS ALREADY BEGUN TO MAKE HIS GAME MORE INTERESTING BY REDEFINING MY CAREER!
YOU'RE RIGHT! AN OUTSIDER LIKE YOU CAN'T TRUST THE POLICE...
SORRY...
THE TV WAS MY UNIQUE WINDOW TO THE OUTSIDE WORLD FOR TEN YEARS...
I DON'T WANT TO CALL THIS A GAME...
MISS...

I'D RATHER
CALL IT A WAR!

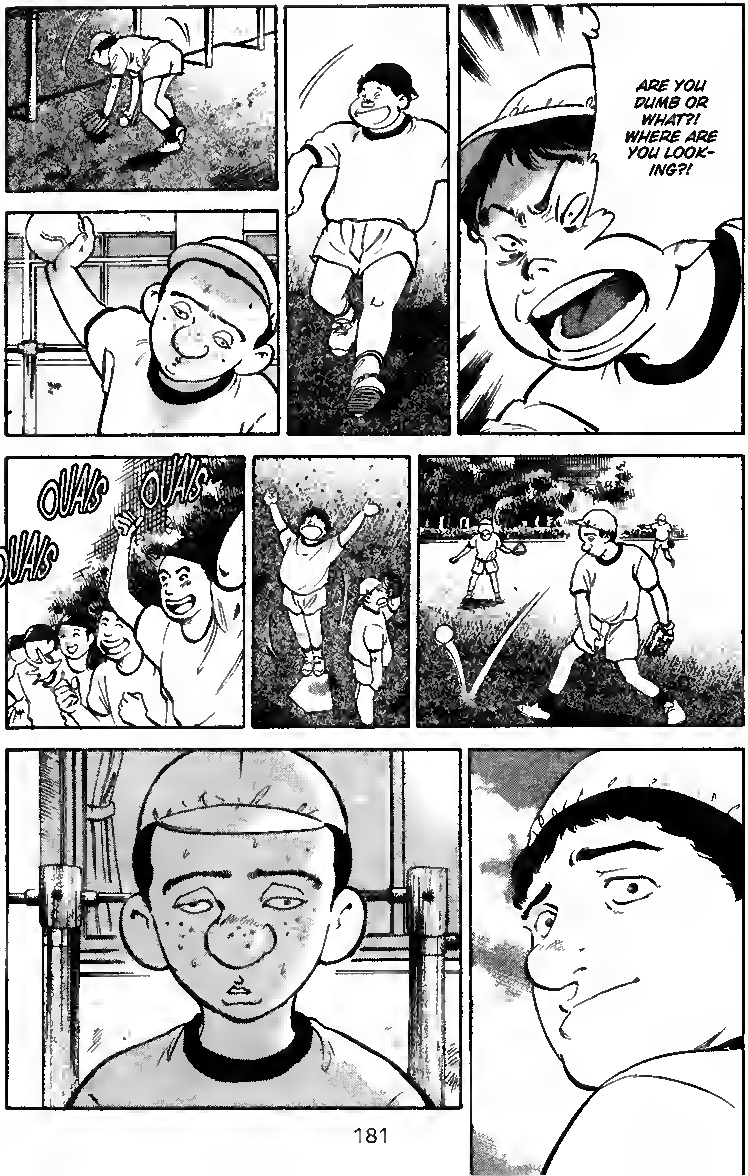
A DILETTANTE WAR, IN WHICH THE TWO OPPONENTS EXERCISE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT VALOR, YET STILL FEEL CONNECTED TO EACH OTHER...
IF SOME PEOPLE HAVE SUCH DUMB REASONS TO LIVE, IT PROBABLY MEANS THAT OUR SOCIETY HAS REACHED ITS ZENITH OF DECA-DENCE!

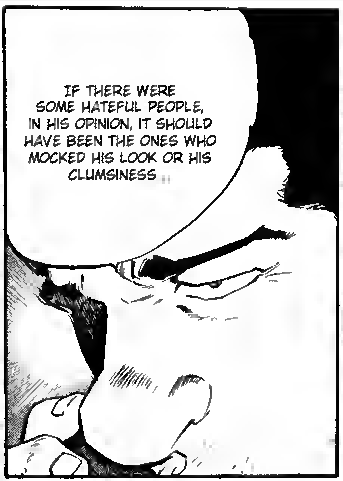
I WANTED TO BECOME A WRITER BECAUSE I CAME TO THE SAME CONCLUSION!
I AGREE WITH YOU

DON'T YOU STILL REMEMBER ...?!
THAT EVENT WHICH CREATED KAKINUMA'S HATRED...
KAAP

OUAIS
OUAIS
OUAIS
HOP
AP
RA
OUAIS
YEAH !!
OUAIS
HA

¡POM


ARE YOU DUMB OR WHAT?! WHERE ARE YOU LOOKING?!
OHHS
OHHS
OHHS


IF THERE WERE SOME HATEFUL PEOPLE, IN HIS OPINION, IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN THE ONES WHO MOCKED HIS LOOK OR HIS CLUMSINESS...

I NEVER TALKED TO HIM..

IT'S TRUE THAT I DIDN'T SEE ANY LINK BETWEEN THE TWO OF YOU DURING THE TIME I WAS YOUR TEACHER!

IT MIGHT SOUND AWKWARD
PFF...
DID YOU NOTICE THAT YOU WERE ONE OF THE FAVORITES IN THE CLASS?
BUT IT'S VERY IMPORTANT!
I ONLY REALIZED IT ONCE I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL!
I DIDN'T KNOW...
HERE'S WHAT I THOUGHT AT THE BEGINNING...
THAT KAKINUMA, WHO IS 25 YEARS OLD OVERCAME THE ECONOMIC CRISIS... HE DID SO MANY THINGS ONLY THANKS TO HIS KNOWLEDGE AND MONEY...
AND IF HIS HATRED HAD TO CHOOSE SOMEONE...

HE'S LIKE A HOMO-SEXUAL STALKER!!
THAT PERSON IS THE SHIN'ICHI GOTO FROM THAT YEAR IN PRIMARY SCHOOL...!
IT WOULD'VE CHOSEN A POPULAR PERSON HE HAD MET AT AN EPOCH WHEN THE HUMAN BEING IS THE MOST IMPRESSIONABLE...
SOMETHING...
NOW I REALIZE THAT THIS HYPOTHESIS ISN'T 100% ACCURATE!
PFF...

SOMETHING OBVIOUSLY HAP-PENED...

KRI
BLONG
IT'S A GIFT FOR YOU!!
MISS...
I SHOWED UP!
IT MUST BE A PRIZE HE WON AT THE PA-CHINKO!

CHAPTER 59 :
IN THE KYOJIMA
SURROUNDINGS,
IN THE KURODA
DISTRICT

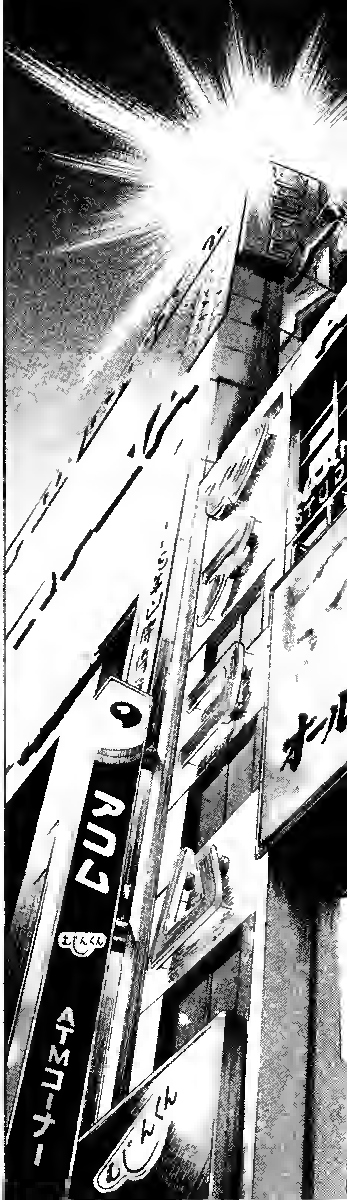
KRII
I'M GONNA TAKE A NAP... OUCH! MY BACK HURTS!
POOR OLD WOMAN!
CLAC
ONE MORE POINT!

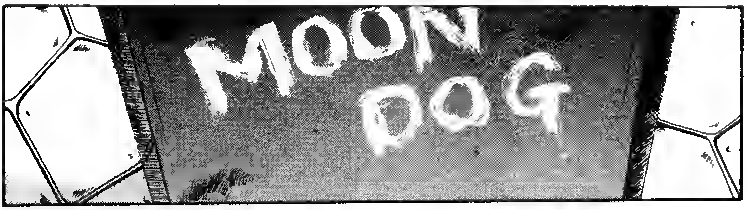
IT'S UNBE- LIEVA- BLE THAT SUCH A CUTE YOUNG WOMAN LIKE YOU ENDED UP IN A POOL HALL IN THE POOR DIS- TRICTS...!
I DON'T KNOW WHY, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE A FLOWER JUST BLOOMED!
EUH...
MISS, DO YOU WANT SOME RAMEN*, TOO?
COME OFF IT

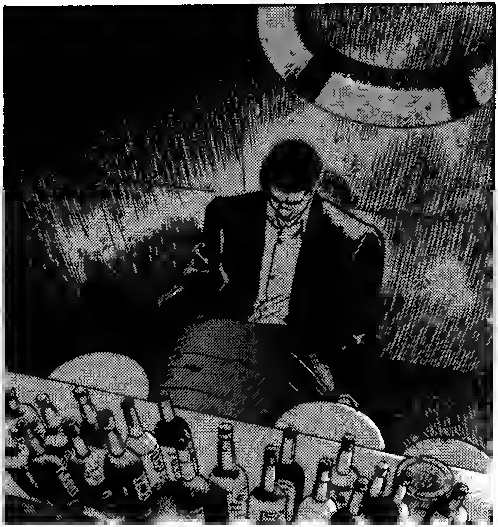
*A JAPANESE NOODLE DISH OF CHINESE ORIGINS. IT IS SERVED WITH A VARIETY OF TOPPINGS SUCH AS SLICED PORK, SEAWEED, KAMABOKO, GREEN ONIONS AND EVEN CORN.

THIS IS DELI-CIOUS!!

2


ATM
ATMコーナー


MOON
DOG



WHAT IS THE EVENT
THAT CREATED KAKINUMA'S
HATRED...?

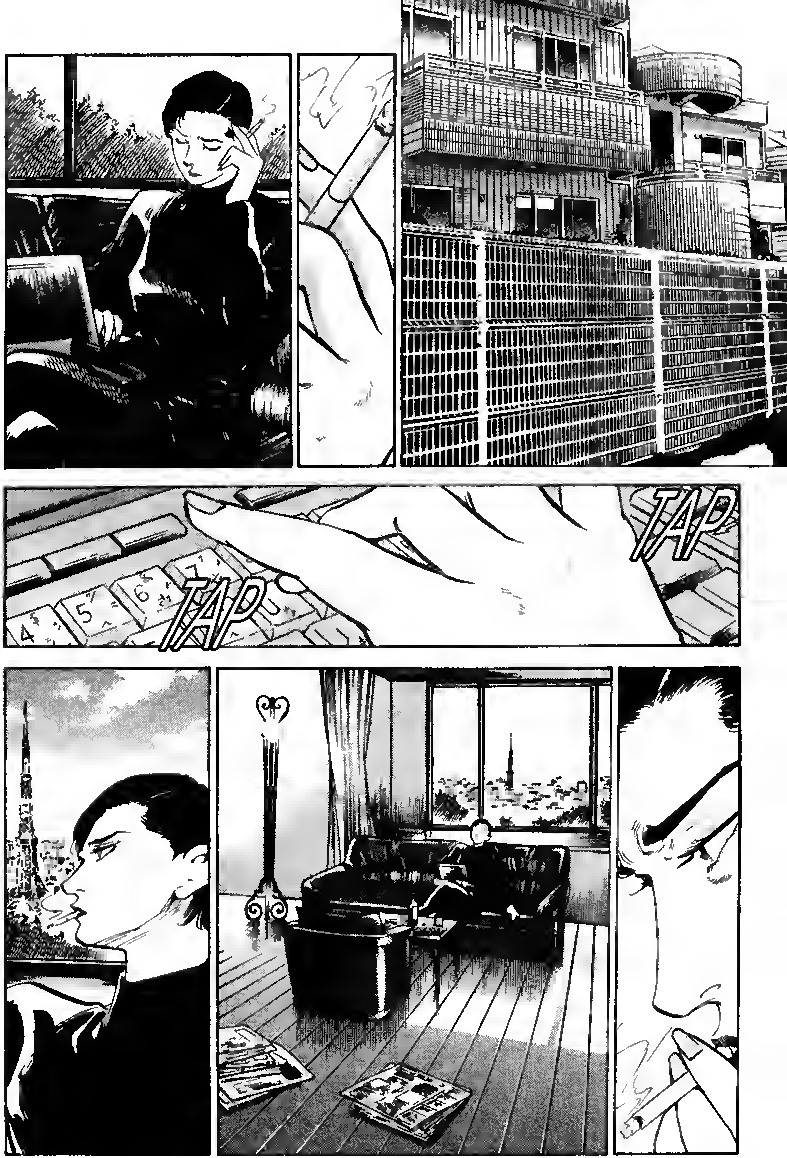
KRII
GOTO ..

CLANG
HEH! YOU'RE HERE!
HAA
FFF
FFF
KRI
FFF
FFF
KRR
FFF
FFF

SHE DIDN'T COME BACK YET...
SHE DIDN'T GO TO WORK YESTERDAY, AND SHE DIDN'T WARN ANYONE...
IT'S THE FIRST TIME SHE'S DONE SUCH A THING...
IT'S OBVIOUSLY AN ORGANIZED RUNAWAY...
I CHECKED THE LICENSE PLATE NUMBER, AND THERE'S NO MOTORCYCLE THAT CORRESPONDS TO IT! IT MUST BE A FAKE ON...

DID YOU NOTICE ANYTHING PARTICULAR ABOUT THAT MAN?
HE WORE A HELMET, SO I DIDN'T SEE HIS FACE
BUT HE WASN'T GOTO, RIGHT?
NO, I'M CERTAIN
THE WIDTH WASN'T THE SAME.
HA HA HA...
YES...!? IS THERE ANYTHING
I MIGHT HAVE UNDERESTIMATED MISS KUSAMA...

BIP
WE CAN CONCLUDE THAT THE FIRST KICK OF THE OVERTIME HAS BEEN GIVEN BY THE OTHER TEAM
I'M REALLY SORRY
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT
THE GAME WILL BE MORE INTERESTING NOW!


TAP
TAP

I HAVE TO WRITE THIS STORY, WHICH IS FAR BEYOND MY IMAGINATION...
TAP
TAP

MOON DOG
CLAC
CLIC
スナック
ローレンス
HM!? HE MUST BE AT THE MAH-JONG ROOM...
TA
CA
TAC

TAC
CA
TA
TA
CA
TAC

I CAN'T RELY ON ALCOHOL...
OKAY, I HAVE TO GATHER BACK THAT FRAGMENT OF MEMORY THAT I LOST!...

CHH
CHH
WHAT IS THE EVENT THAT CREATED KAINUMA'S HATRED...?
CHH
CHH
CHH
CHH
CHH

CHH
CHH
CHH

CHH
CHH
THE MUSIC CLASS-ROOM ...!
THE ONLY LESSON WHERE MISS KUSAMA, FORMERLY MISS YOKO KURADA, COULDN'T OBSERVE US WAS THE MUSIC ONE ...
BECAUSE IT WAS LED BY ANOTHER TEACHER ...!!
TO BE CONTINUED...